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Air raids continue after Tehran's ceasefire acceptance

Iraqi, Iranian jets clash over Gulf

MANAMA, July 19, (Agencies): Iraqi warplanes attacked an unfinished nuclear plant on Iran's Gulf coast and other industrial targets today in a show of strength a day after Tehran announced its acceptance of a United Nations ceasefire call.

Iraq claimed it shot down three Iraqi jets and Baghdad, saying its aircraft scored "destructive hits" on several targets, reported two Iranian planes downed — one in a dogfight over the Gulf and the other with anti-aircraft fire near Kirkuk, an oil centre on the northern frontier.

Each side acknowledged the loss of one plane.

Surprise

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz described Iran's decision to accept the UN resolution as "two-faced" and "aiming at winning time to launch surprise offensives."

He said Iraq would take a responsible stand towards peace following Iran's announcement.

A key member of the US Congress, visiting Navy ships in the Gulf, said a gradual reduction in US forces could begin as soon as a truce became reality and the political and diplomatic process permitted it.

"The extraction of our forces is going to be very simple," said Rep. William Dickinson, ranking Republican on the House Armed Services Committee. "We don't have anything on the ground. All we have to do is wind that ship up and go."

Iran condemned Iraq's raids and said it was proof that Baghdad opposes peace in the region where the two have been at war nearly eight years.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency quoted the head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation, Reza Amrollahi, as saying the Iraqi raid inflicted "heavy losses" on the plant.

Amrollahi, in a letter to the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency, claimed it was the seventh Iraqi raid on the unfinished facility in four years, IRNA reported.

Historic

Tehran Radio said the attacks would force "international forums" including the UN to "an historic and sensitive test" while showing a need for Iran's forces to "remain on a state of alert so as to confront the aggressive enemy."

The radio accused Iraq of violating international law by attacking the nuclear power station at Bushehr, on Iran's northern coast. But it made no claim that a major radiation leak could result.

The radio said Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati sent a letter to UN Secretary-General Javiers Perez de Cuellar saying the Iraqi attacks showed Baghdad's call for peace were false.

IRNA said the Iraqi raiders hit other targets near Ahvaz, in southern Khuzestan province, where some people were killed, and a huge petrochemical complex at Bandar Khomeini at the northern end of the Gulf.

The chemical plant is a 15-



Tariq Aziz

year-old joint project of Iran and Japan's Mitsui Corp. although 85 per cent complete, work on the \$4.5 billion plant was suspended after the war began in 1980.

By coincidence, Mitsui officials said in Tokyo today that they were considering giving the project up entirely, but would continue negotiations with Iran on repayment of a \$1.2 billion debt for work completed.

Downed

The Iraqi raids were first reported by independent monitors in the Gulf, who said there were "a lot of planes in the air" and an Iranian F-14 fighter apparently had downed an Iraqi jet.

IRNA later claimed two Iraqi jets were shot down in air battles over the Gulf and a third by ground fire at an unspecified location.

In a military communique reported by the official Iraqi News Agency, Baghdad said its planes clashed with Iran's while on "routine patrol" and shot down an F-14. Later it said a second Iranian plane, an F-4, was downed at Kirkuk.

Iraq did not suggest the raids would affect its decision to accept UN Resolution 598, calling for a ceasefire. UN Secretary-General Javiers Perez de Cuellar said implementation would take a week to 10 days.

Aziz, in remarks reported by the Iraqi News Agency (INA), described the Iranian decision as "double-faced."

He described Iran's decision as "a tactical one aiming at winning time to launch surprise offensives or to prepare for a new aggression against Iraq."

Sure

"We will consider the war to be still going on until the actual application of the ceasefire according to an agreed-upon plan," he said. "We have to make sure the Iraqis really want a comprehensive and lasting peace."

INA quoted a communique as saying Iraqi jets flew 132 missions during the day, "scoring destructive hits" on key targets inside Iran and shooting down an Iranian plane attacking Iraq's Amiq deepwater terminal in the northern Gulf and an F-4 Phantom jet at Kirkuk.

"It admitted losing one aircraft which crashed inside enemy territory," and said Iran would be held responsible for its pilot.



Perez de Cuellar

UN chief anxious to implement ceasefire

UNITED NATIONS, July 19, (Agencies): Continued fighting in the Gulf war today has made Secretary-General Javiers Perez de Cuellar anxious to implement a ceasefire plan accepted by Iran, the UN leader's spokesman said.

Perez de Cuellar "considers the continuation of hostilities in the area a clear sign that the ceasefire should come into place as soon as possible, and he is extremely anxious that this should be the case," said his spokesman, Francois Giuliani.

Perez de Cuellar met separately yesterday with Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Jafar Mahallati and Iraqi Ambassador Ismat Kittani. There was no word on the talks.

US threatens to veto UN condemnation

UNITED NATIONS, July 19, (Agencies): The United States has threatened to veto any Security Council resolution that condemns the downing of an Iranian jetliner by a US warship, Western diplomatic sources said yesterday.

Delegates have been struggling since last week to produce a resolution that would not spark a US veto but would go some of the way toward meeting an Iranian demand for condemnation of the July 3 attack that killed all 290 on board.

The sources said the United States has warned delegates it would not accept a resolution deploring the downing, preferring softer language such as an expression of regret.

Last week the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) "deeply deplored" the incident.

The sources said the US delegation has turned up the pressure, warning it would use its veto power rather than accept a compromise by abstaining.

US officials contend the captain of the warship mistook the airliner for an attacking Iranian fighter.

The Pentagon said yesterday the completion of its investigation into a Navy ship's downing of an Iranian airliner will be delayed until the end of the month at the request of the probe's chief.

"Rear Adm. William Fogarty has requested additional time to complete his investigation," the Pentagon statement said. "The estimated completion time is the end of July."

'Dispute with Iraq suspended'

Foreign forces in Gulf should leave: Rafsanjani

LONDON, July 19, (Reuters): Iran's military chief Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has said that with a Gulf ceasefire both Iran and Iraq should withdraw their forces to their international borders.

He also said yesterday in remarks broadcast by Iranian television and monitored by the BBC that foreign forces in the Gulf should leave.

Rafsanjani spoke to the nation within hours of Iran's acceptance of a Gulf ceasefire resolution, drawn up by the United Nations Security Council.

Captured

The first of 10 articles in Resolution 598 demands a ceasefire and withdrawal of forces to international boundaries as a first step toward a complete settlement.

On Iranian television, Rafsanjani was asked about captured territories in Iraq and Iran after Iran's acceptance of the UN resolution.

According to BBC monitoring, he said: "Naturally, after the acceptance of this, both sides should return to the points that are agreed as international borders."

"For example, the Iraqis are now in one of our cities — Najafshahr. Some of our heights are still in the hands of Iraq. In certain places we hold some of the

Iraqi heights. "If it is accepted and implementation agreed upon, this is the first thing that should be done."

Asked how the UN resolution should be implemented, Rafsanjani said that the UN secretary-general and the Security Council would "as a rule" determine a time for the ceasefire.

"Then the paragraphs of the resolution will be carried out in order. The parties should return to recognised international borders as stated in the resolution. PoWs (prisoners of war) should be exchanged."

"The committee which will determine who the aggressor is should begin operation."

"The foreign forces that have gathered in the Gulf on this pretext should leave. Then talks will be held for the final solution of the issue."

Suspended

Rafsanjani said the dispute with Iraq was "suspended" with the acceptance of the resolution by Iran, but was not over. Iranian forces should remain prepared.

He said, in the remarks broadcast by Iranian television, that Iran's acceptance of the resolution was militarily important.

"We have opponents in Iran who say: 'Why are you being obstinate?' If tomorrow it

becomes clear, that despite our flexibility, they (the Iraqis) still do not want to surrender to what is right, then our opponents within the country will be disarmed, and our people will no longer be fooled by this domestic propaganda and will see that we have no other alternative but this."

"We can then continue on our path. We have maintained our forces. Our forces should remain prepared on the fronts and behind the fronts. Our people should be ready."

"With the acceptance of the resolution, the dispute is not actually over. It has been suspended until we see how the terms of the resolution are implemented."

Dissolution

"If the ceasefire is established, there will not be a war on the fronts. But the orders that the Imam (Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini) issued to me, that is, the co-ordination of the armed forces and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the dissolution of unnecessary duplication, the placing of the government's resources at the disposal of the armed forces ... and activities pertaining to the support of the war should continue..."

"I do not consider the attainment of peace and calm as unlikely. However, I am not very

(Continued on Page 2)

US has no plans to pull out of Gulf now

TOKYO, July 19, (Agencies): Secretary of State George Shultz said today the United States had no immediate plans to pull its massive naval force out of the Gulf despite Iran's surprise acceptance of a UN ceasefire resolution.

"We'll be there as long as it takes to serve the peaceful and proper mission that we undertook," he told a news conference after two days of talks with Japanese officials.

First step

"If the problems go away, the ship presence will go down," he said, but added: "Just when it'll be apparent that that is the case remains to be seen."

Iran's acceptance of the

resolution, known as 598, was universally welcomed but is only a "first step" in the peace process, Shultz said.

It follows recent Iranian territorial losses to Iraq and the downing by the United States of an Iranian commercial airliner with 290 people on board.

In Washington, State Department officials, while refusing to discuss publicly the reasons behind Iran's stunning reversal of policy, speculated privately that a combination of military and domestic reasons had brought Iran to the decision. Among those reasons, one official said, is the increasing probability that Ayatollah

Sheikh Sabah welcomes decision

THE acting Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed welcomed the Iranian decision to accept UN Security Council Resolution 598 saying: "The ceasefire and end of the war is a victory for all peace loving people. This was the hope of all as peace is the most important of noble goals."

Acting State Minister for Cabinet Affairs and Minister of Housing Naser Al Roudhan welcomed as a "basic and important step" Iran's acceptance of the resolution.

Roudhan said Kuwait received news of the ceasefire acceptance with "great optimism."

Hoped

He said he hoped Iran made the move in response to peace calls issued by the international community since the outbreak of hostilities in Sept 1980.

He said the UN secretary-general and the Security Council had a special responsibility to ensure the resolution provisions were immediately implemented.

He expressed Kuwait's readiness to co-operate with all concerned to implement the UN resolution.

546 ships hit

LONDON, July 19, (Reuters): A total of 546 ships have been attacked or damaged in the Gulf since the war between Iran and Iraq broke out nearly eight years ago, Lloyd's shipping intelligence said yesterday.

A spokesman said of the total, 94 vessels were attacked in 1988, the most recent being last Friday's attack by Iranian gunboats on the Liberian-registered Sea Victory.

Zia ruling illegally: Junejo

ISLAMABAD, July 19, (AP): Former Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has asked Pakistan's President to stop ruling the country illegally, and demanded early general elections to put the nation back under a constitutional government.

Junejo reviewed the recent actions of President Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq at a meeting of the executive committee of his Pakistan Muslim League Party.

"Junejo said all decisions Zia has taken since May 29 are unconstitutional and illegal, because these are not actions by a legally constituted government," party secretary-general Iqbal Ahmad Khan told reporters at a news briefing.

Charged

Zia dismissed Junejo, his 33-member cabinet and the 237-member National Assembly on May 29. He charged them with corruption, incompetence, and failure to quickly Islamise the country and prevent the breakdown of law and order.

Junejo, who developed differences with Zia on domestic policy issues during his three years as prime minister, has called these allegations "baseless and fictitious."

In Algiers, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said: "Algeria welcomes the possibility opened up by the urgent implementation of Resolution 598 which comprises all elements for a just and honourable peace."

West Germany appealed to Iraq and Iran to co-operate with the United Nations to bring about a swift ceasefire in the Gulf war.

Japan and South Korea

(Continued on Page 2)



Junejo

He said the 18-member caretaker government Zia appointed on June 9 is not a legally constituted cabinet because it has no prime minister — an essential provision of the constitution.

In the closed door executive committee meeting, Junejo asked his partymen to "evolve a strategy to successfully contest the assembly elections when these are announced by Zia," said Ahmad Khan.

He also asked the committee to decide what action should be taken in case Zia refuses to announce a date for polls.

Future prospects are favourable

Businessmen expect a windfall

By Jadranka Porter

STARTLED from its summer slumber by the Iranian acceptance on Monday of the UN resolution calling for a ceasefire in the Iraq-Iran war, Kuwait paused briefly to take in the news and let out a big sigh of relief, then began contemplating about the better life ahead.

In fact many sharp operators did more than just contemplate. In less than 24 hours after the news was released some businessmen made small fortunes buying and selling the Iraqi dinar which rose sharply on Monday and yesterday morning.

Emotional

Stock market prices soared, shopowners began stockpiling in anticipation of higher prices and real estate prices were poised to rise.

Some money exchange offices ran out of Iraqi dinars and the Iranian riyal grew in value and the markets were teeming with customers for these two currencies.

Far from equal

LONDON, July 19, (Reuters): Men are winning the battle of the sexes and pay only lip service to equality in marriage, according to a British book published today.

The book, entitled "The Beginning of the Rest of Your Life," was written by sociologists of the Independent Marriage Research Centre who interviewed 65 newly-married couples.

The book says newly-weds talk about sharing and togetherness but their lives show the burdens of men and women are far from equal. Even working wives did most of the housework and men's careers took precedence, according to the book.

"At each point in the story, it becomes clear that the worlds of husband and wife are separate," it says.

"This is a long way from the egalitarian relationship which has so often been presented as the essence of modern marriage."

Nothing could stop Kuwait from an emotional reaction to the prospect of a ceasefire and possibly a lasting peace in the Gulf. No area of life will remain unchanged, say the analysts.

"The Kuwaitis will now do what they are best at, trading, financing and making the impossible things become possible," said one analyst.

However, economists are warning that the sudden upsurge in business activity is not based on the fundamentals but reflects a psychological reaction to the Iranian peaceful gesture.

Drop

The Gulf Bank's economist, Abdul Wahab Al Ameen, told the Arab Times that after the initial upswing in trading the market will cool off and the business activity will assume more realistic proportions.

But he had no reservations about the more favourable trends emerging especially in view of the anticipated military spending in the region in favour of pumping funds into projects to

enervate local economies.

"The fundamentals are the same but the future prospects are favourable," he said.

This was not lost on Kuwait's entrepreneurs. The Iraqi dinar shot up from 155 fils before the news was released on Monday to 500 fils yesterday morning only to drop to 250 fils later in the day.

Some money exchange offices declared that they ran out of the Iraqi currency following the onrush of customers.

Trading in Iraqi dinars was suspended by dealers yesterday evening as the market grew increasingly jittery.

One money dealer said he had a group of customers with a total of KD5 million waiting to change them into Iraqi currency.

The euphoria that engulfed the money market spilled all over the commercial scene. On Monday in a matter of hours the stock exchange in Kuwait has seen unprecedented activity.

Some shares, say the observers, would have gone through the roof had it not been

(Continued on Page 4)

Iran's decision welcomed as a positive step

NEW YORK, July 19, (Agencies): Iran's acceptance of a UN ceasefire resolution aimed at ending the nearly eight-year-old Gulf war received international approval today, with several nations offering to help monitor a ceasefire and finance reconstruction efforts.

The welcome given to Iran's decision crossed political boundaries, as Western, Arab, non-aligned and communist countries all called it a positive step. Iraq and Egypt, however, questioned Iran's sincerity, and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said the ceasefire could mean a new threat to the Jewish state.

Both the Soviet Union and United States welcomed the breakthrough in UN efforts to end the Gulf war, which has imperiled Gulf shipping and drawn foreign navies into the region.

In Moscow, a Foreign Ministry spokesman expressed "deep satisfaction" with Iran's decision. Gennady Gerasimov said the Soviets had consistently stood for the "speedy conversion of the Iran-Iraq conflict to peaceful political negotiations."

China, a permanent member of the UN Security Council that passed the resolution last July, said Iran's decision would "help to end the prolonged ... war."

Objective

India's External Affairs Ministry said: "We hope and pray that this paves the way for a ceasefire and a lasting peace in the area."

British Foreign Minister David Mellor told a radio interviewer: "This is potentially a major breakthrough ... and I hope very much it will mean Iran's ceasing further activities."

"We have to be sure that Iraq, now faced with Iranian accep-

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- مقدم جنگ بى بنى سے اسرائيل كو
- خطرہ عراق سے تازہ ختم نہیں ہوا..... رجحانى
- ديايجر سے ايرانى فيصلہ پر اظہار مسرت
- كويت ميں لائبرى كا ايكٹيل

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE remains around normal with moderate north-westerly wind.

State of sea: slight to moderate

High water: 4.00 am, 3.00 pm

Low water: 10.00 am, 10.00 pm

Sunrise: 5.01 am

Sunset: 6.47 pm

Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 46°C 115°F

Ahmad: 44°C 111°F

Fallaka: 43°C 109°F

Minimum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 26°C 79°F

Ahmad: 29°C 84°F

Fallaka: 31°C 88°F

Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 45°C 113°F

Ahmad: 43°C 109°F

Fallaka: 42°C 108°F

Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 15 per cent

Ahmad: 20 per cent

Fallaka: 24 per cent

Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 17 per cent

Ahmad: 22 per cent

Fallaka: 26 per cent

ARAB TIMES

Grand Bingo

Mr. Arthur Jerald D'Silva has won the KD 25 Top Line prize. Game No. 65 continues for the three Full House prizes.

DAY BY DAY

THIS time, the Eid Al Adha festivities arrive with auspicious signs.

This Eid is blessed with the long-awaited good news of the return of peace to the region and the reunion of its Muslim people after a long period of separation.

During this period, those having international interests succeeded in achieving their wishes.

Eid Al Adha, this year brings tidings of joy that will always be remembered. It has brought with it peace, stability and brotherly greetings, which will not be for the Iraqi people alone, but, for all peoples of the Islamic world.

Zahed Matar

Gorbachev condemns Armenian campaign

MOSCOW, July 19, (AP): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has condemned the leaders of an Armenian unification movement as corrupt enemies of his reforms "who stuffed their wallets" before he came to power, Radio Moscow reported today.

Despite Gorbachev's comments, however, an Armenian journalist said the campaign to join Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenia would continue.

The Soviet leader made the comments to the Supreme Soviet Presidium, the country's top executive body, which refused on Monday to alter the sovereignty over the district, a part of the Azerbaijan Republic since 1923.

Most of Nagorno-Karabakh's residents are Armenian. But the territory, an enclave inside Azerbaijan, has no common borders with Armenia itself.

Since February, Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh and their home republic have been waging a noisy campaign for the annexation of Nagorno-Karabakh, and many voiced hopes the greater democratisation and openness under Gorbachev would lead to the Kremlin's acceptance of their demands.

In massive demonstrations

that began in Yerevan, Armenia's capital, in late February, many participants carried portraits of Gorbachev to emphasise their faith in the Communist Party chief.

But state-run Radio Moscow's report on Gorbachev's remarks said the 57-year-old Soviet leader firmly pronounced himself in favour of "the need to reaffirm the existing realities."

Gorbachev also accused proponents of the annexation drive of exploiting the territorial dispute to hide their hostility to his programme for economic and social change.

"The so-called Karabakh issue was being used as a smokescreen by opponents of perestroika, by conservative and corrupt people who stuffed their wallets in the period of stagnation," Radio Moscow paraphrased Gorbachev in its international English-language service.

Gorbachev's harsh remarks and the presidium's ruling, which the official Tass news agency said was unanimous, seemed certain to fuel more unrest among Armenians, who consider Nagorno-Karabakh part of their historic homeland.

Chances slim for condemnation of US

NICOSIA, July 18, (Reuters): Iran said the chances of the UN Security Council condemning the United States for shooting down an Iran Air Airbus over the Gulf killing 290 people were slim, the Iranian news agency IRNA said today.

IRNA, quoted Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati saying on his return from New York last

night that the council's handling of similar issues in the past had left little room for hope.

"But because Iran does not trust the council as an impartial judge, it does not mean that the Islamic government does not have a responsibility to assert itself at the United Nations," IRNA quoted Velayati saying.

Change is long overdue: Carter

Democrats open convention

ATLANTA, July 19, (AP): Thousands of cheering Democrats opened their national convention today to nominate Michael Dukakis for President in hopes of sweeping out the Republicans after eight years of Ronald Reagan.

"Change is long overdue," said former President Jimmy Carter, who was defeated by Reagan in 1980. "We want the federal (government budget) deficit brought under control. We want a coherent foreign policy."

Patriotism was a strong element of opening night of the four-day gathering in the Omni Convention Hall, from the red, white and blue of the decorations and the US flags to the marine corps brass band playing the national anthem and schoolchildren reciting the national pledge of allegiance. The evening concluded with a jazz rendition of "God bless America" and a prayer.

Capture
Carter urged the delegates to capture the party's most elusive value: "unity," he exhorted. "One more time unity."

But national television coverage was only minutes old when tensions emerged, reflecting Jesse Jackson's continued attempts to influence the Dukakis campaign and party policy.

"Jesse, Jesse," Jackson's delegates shouted rhythmically. "Dukakis, Dukakis," the majority delegates shouted back across the hall.

Some Jackson delegates said even though Dukakis and Jackson were trying to make peace, they were ready to wage war off the convention floor, and their

repeated chants were intended to be a message.

Dukakis is the son of Greek immigrants and the governor of the northeastern state of Massachusetts. He won the support of a majority of the 4,162 convention delegates in state primary elections earlier this year, thus assuring himself of the nomination.

Meeting

He held a unity meeting earlier yesterday with runner-up Jackson, the black leader who has the most enthusiastic supporters in US presidential politics. Jackson adopted a conciliatory tone, but said he would still allow his name to be put up for nomination against Dukakis on Wednesday evening.

The first session of the convention focussed on speeches by "keynote" speaker Ann Richards, who is Texas state treasurer, and by Carter.

In his few moments on the stage, Carter appealed for harmony. "Let us go forth from this convention united behind our candidates and our ideals — and with our eyes on the prize," he said.

"Nothing's wrong with you, that you can't fix in November," Ms. Richards said to roars of approval from the delegates.

A national unknown but whose appearance was expected to help her 1990 bid for Governor of Texas, she was chosen to deliver the first major speech of the convention, partly because of her reputation for biting wit.

"This election is a contest between those who are satisfied with what they have and those who know we can do better," she said. "For eight straight years

George Bush hasn't displayed the slightest interest in anything we care about," Ms. Richards said. "And now that he's after a job he can't get appointed to, he's like (Christopher) Columbus discovering America. He's found child care. He's found education."

Praised

Ms. Richards praised Dukakis, Jackson and Dukakis' choice for his running mate, Texas Sen. Lloyd Bentsen. She heaped scorn on Reagan and Bush.

The ABC broadcasting network reported as the convention opened that a new poll it conducted pointed to a close contest against the Republicans.

Six Indian soldiers killed

COLOMBO, July 19, (Reuters): Five Indian soldiers and two civilians were killed when a mine blew up their truck in northwestern Sri Lanka, Indian officials said today.

A high commission (embassy) spokeswoman blamed the blast at Mannar yesterday on Tamil separatist guerrillas.

Police said an Indian soldier and a rebel were killed in a clash at Kalumalai in eastern Ampara district yesterday.

Heroin haul

BOMBAY, July 19, (Reuters): A Nigerian was arrested at Bombay airport today after heroin worth nearly \$16 million was discovered, Indian customs officials said.



Jesse Jackson (left) whispers in Michael Dukakis' ear during their news conference in Atlanta. (Reuters wirephoto)

S. Africa declines to free Mandela

CAPE TOWN, July 19, (Reuters): The South African government has refused to free jailed black nationalist Nelson Mandela despite a chorus of international appeals for his release coinciding with his 70th birthday.

"No matter how much international pressure is brought upon us, we have to live with the consequences of our actions," Information Minister Stoffel van der Merwe said as Mandela spent his birthday on Monday alone in a Cape Town prison cell.

"The situation at present precludes the government from considering the release of Mr. Mandela," Van der Merwe added in an interview on state-run television.

He said he hoped Mandela could eventually be freed one day and the government kept the issue under review.

It was the government's first direct response to pleas from dozens of countries, including the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, Japan and West Germany, to free Mandela, who is serving a life sentence for plotting to overthrow white rule.

He has already been 26 years in jail.

Sympathy
Foreign Minister P. W. Botha had earlier attacked Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney for expressing sympathy in his

birthday message with victims of apartheid, while ignoring the sufferings of people caught in insurrectionary violence.

Otherwise the government and the state-run broadcasting services kept silent about the birthday of the African National Congress (ANC) leader, while police stifled most public attempts to mark the anniversary inside South Africa.

Over the weekend the authorities banned pop music concerts planned in Durban and outside Johannesburg, joggers wearing Mandela tee-shirts were detained.

On Monday, police with batons chased students holding a birthday rally at the mainly white University of Cape Town and riot police surrounded a church where 800 people held a service.

But a leading article in the pro-government Beeld newspaper on Monday showed that the mobilisation of world opinion had impressed at least part of the Afrikaans establishment.

The Afrikaans-language daily broke ranks and said there would never be a better time than now to free Mandela.

The flood of cards and telegrams was overwhelming proof that Mandela's years in jail had made him a living legend who was more valuable to ANC propaganda in jail than free.

Iran's decision welcomed ...

(Continued from Page 1)
offered to help in monitoring a ceasefire and launching reconstruction efforts.

Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno told a news conference that his government was ready to send non-military personnel to the two countries following a peace agreement.

In South Korea, Finance Ministry officials said Seoul would consider low-interest loans to Iran and Iraq for reconstruction after the war.

The officials, speaking on condition of not being identified, said Seoul's aid to Iran and Iraq could help Korean enterprises advance in the two countries, where some Korean contractors already have done work.

Italy and Sweden also offered its services as UN observers to monitor a ceasefire.

Pressure
In Paris, the French Foreign Ministry welcomed the Iranian decision "with satisfaction" and said the development "should open the way to a just and lasting settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict."

Yugoslavia's state press said Iran had been compelled by its recent losses on the battlefield and international pressure.

Israel, however, said it feared Iraq would join other Arab states against the Jewish state if the Gulf war ended.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said today he doubted Iraq would turn its weapons against Israel. Egypt, an ally of Iraq, was ostracised by the Arab world for its 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

"Iran says it has accepted the resolution, and I hope this is not some kind of manoeuvre," Mubarak said. "We will want peace to be established in the

Arab world and the Gulf region because our peoples in these areas have had enough war, killing, destruction and the use of resources against the interests of man."

Iraq said yesterday that the Iranian decision appeared to be based on tactics and not a sincere desire for peace.

Accept
Saudi Arabia, which three months ago ruptured diplomatic ties with Iran, also welcomed Tehran's decision to accept the ceasefire.

The Saudis did not address any messages directly to Tehran. "The kingdom welcomes the advent of peace and the ending of tension in the region," said a statement by an authorised Saudi official source.

Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan, President of the United Arab Emirates, sent cables of congratulations to both; Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Iranian President Ali Khamenei.

The UAE said it hoped the ceasefire would lead to a Gulf free of foreign intervention — an apparent reference to the 60-odd foreign warships now in the waterway to protect neutral shipping from the Iran-Iraq "tanker war."

Provide
Philippine government officials said peace in the Gulf could eventually lower Manila's oil bill and provide new markets for exports.

While Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke welcomed the move, he cautioned against too much hope for peace.

"You can't say with any certainty peace will come, but what you can say certainly is that it is the best sign that we have had in eight years," he told reporters.

Iranians to be deported

NICOSIA, Cyprus, July 19, (AP): Ninety-nine Iranian citizens, men, women and children, seeking sanctuary in a monastery and a nursery were evicted by police today and taken to Larnaca airport to await deportation back to Iran.

Many in the group burst into tears and lamentations at the airport departure lounge. They

complained they would be jailed or otherwise punished by the Iranian authorities if they were sent back.

Airport police said the Iranians would remain in the lounge until tomorrow when they would be put aboard the weekly Iran Air direct flight to Tehran.

The Iranians had arrived in Cyprus recently.

Clashes follow killing of Palestinian

BEIT SAHOUR, West Bank, July 19, (Reuters): Clashes flared today between Israeli troops and Palestinians in the occupied West Bank angered by the death of a teenager whose skull was smashed by a stone block from an Army rooftop lookout post.

In a separate incident, another young Palestinian was shot dead.

The Israeli Army said it would continue to investigate what it called "a tragic accident" caused by a building block which fell four storeys yesterday and smashed the skull of Jela Aisa Ghanam, 17, in Beit Sahour village.

Hundreds of villagers, however, believe it was a cold-blooded murder and demonstrated at Ghanam's funeral yesterday evening and again today.

Firing slingshots and throwing stones, masked youths ambushed several Army patrols which ventured into the village to break up the demonstrations by angry men, women and children.

"It is a tragedy for Beit Sahour," Mayor Hanna Atrash told Reuters. "I was outside my house and heard the crash, looked round and Ghanam was on the ground, shaking like a chicken that's just been killed."

"The stone, which must have weighed four or five pounds (two kg), hit him on the head. As we carried him, I looked up and saw a soldier holding his head in both hands with astonishment."

Villagers erected a makeshift monument over the blood-stained stones on Mosque Street where Ghanam, a tailor, was killed, and decorated it with his photograph and dozens of Palestinian flags.

US has no plans to pull out of Gulf ...

(Continued from Page 1)

Khomeini — the spiritual and political leader of the Iranian revolution — is committed in the final stages of terminal cancer.

Another possible reason, according to officials, is the series of military setbacks the Iranians have suffered in the land war against Iraq and the heavy losses its Navy has taken in clashes with US forces.

Yet another is the realisation by Iranians that they are losing the international propaganda war to Iraq because of their refusal to accept a ceasefire.

The administration statement yesterday read: "The United States welcomes Iran's formal acceptance of United Nations Resolution 598 as well as President Saddam Hussein's reaffirmation of Iraq's acceptance of the resolution."

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater, in California with President Reagan, underscored the point that the mere announcement of Iran's acceptance of the resolution will not mean any immediate change in US policy. He repeated the US conditions for any resumption of political dialogue with Iran and said US forces in the Gulf will only be scaled back when there is a demonstrable reduction in the threat to international shipping.

Shultz repeated today US willingness to reopen direct contacts with "authoritative representatives" of the Tehran government.

"We remain as we have been, prepared for direct discussions with them about all manner of issues that concern us," he said.

'Foreign forces in Gulf should leave'

(Continued from Page 1)

optimistic either."

Rafsanjani also said Iran still believed that the "aggressor" should be punished, according to the BBC monitoring.

"We continue to stand by our previous word. That is, we think that the aggressor should be punished and our rights restored."

Condition
"Nothing has changed apart from one condition that we had, which was that the committee to determine the aggressor should be announced first and then a ceasefire be implemented."

"We have waived this condition. When we were assured that the formation of this committee will be such that it will truly seek justice, we waived this condition and said that it can be implemented in its turn."

A Tehran dispatch by the Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Rafsanjani as having told a news conference yesterday that with the implementation of the ceasefire resolution, US forces must pull out from the Gulf because he said they would have no right anymore to stay there.

If this was not done, he said, the implementation of the resolution would be incomplete.

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INTERNATIONAL

Heat wave, worst drought hit China

BEIJING, July 19, (Reuters): Nearly 400 people have died in a heatwave afflicting southern China, with some areas in the grip of the worst drought for decades.

Official newspapers said today that 290 people, most of them elderly and sick, had died because of the intense heat in Nanchang, the capital of Jiangxi province. "It is still the same, really hot, 40 degrees (104 Fahrenheit)," a Nanchang city spokesman said.

Air-raid shelters have been opened to provide a haven from the heat.

In Shanghai, China's most crowded city, with 12 million people, the Xinmin Evening News said on Monday that 255 people were suffering from heatstroke and 10 had died.

Air-conditioned cinemas and department stores have been packed with people escaping the heat and humidity.

Fortunately for Nanjing, further west on the Yangtze river, evening rains have brought relief in recent days but only after 83 people died of heatstroke, a city spokesman said.

Temperatures were slightly cooler in northern China but many civil servants in Beijing are finishing work early in the afternoon.

"We have 30 people in one room with just one fan. They've given us 55 yuan (\$15) as a summer season bonus and we go home early," one office worker said.

High temperatures have caused a rise in disease in the capital with the number of malarial cases in early July over 50 per cent higher than last year, the official China Daily said on Monday. It did not say how many people were afflicted.

A Health Ministry spokesman said he did not know how many people had died in the heat wave and had only read one week-old article in an official Communist Party newspaper.

Drought has stricken 10 provinces in southern and central China as well as the northern provinces of Hebei, Shanxi and Shaanxi, a Civil Affairs Ministry official said.

Zhuxi county in Hubei province was suffering its worst prolonged drought for 111 years, he said.

The official, working in the agricultural emergency department, said 20 million hectares (50 million acres) of crops were affected nationwide, 7.3 million hectares (18 million acres) seriously.



A woman pauses to fan herself in Beijing's Beihai Park as the temperature in the Chinese capital rose to 33 degrees Centigrade (91.4 Fahrenheit). (Reuters wirephoto)

Bani Sadr foresees fall of Khomeini

THE former Iranian President Abdulhassan Bani Sadr has stressed that the situation in his country is on the verge of explosion, saying that an end to the ongoing Iraq-Iran war would mean an end to the Khomeini regime.

In an interview with a Kuwaiti newspaper Bani Sadr affirmed that the Iranian people will rise sooner or later against the current rule, indicating that such incidents as the US downing of the Iranian airliner will only momentarily bring the people around their government.

On the Iran-Iraq war and its effects, the ex-Iranian President said that the war made it easier for Israel to invade Lebanon and occupy parts of its lands and also "suffocate" the Palestinian revolution.

Asked if the downing of the Iranian airliner would resolve Iran's internal matters, he replied, "I say the opposite, it would make it even worse," hoping that US Vice-President George Bush stands to benefit from this incident to help him gain grounds on his Democratic rival Michael Dukakis.

In the interview carried with him before Iran accepted the UN ceasefire resolution, Bani Sadr said that the country's sole salvation from its crisis is to return to democracy and the principles of the revolution, a step which, he said, can only be accomplished by recalling the cadres who were present at the start of the revolution.

Bani Sadr said he would return to power if asked, but only if the war with neighbouring Iraq is halted, parties are granted freedom of expression and that clergy are kept away from power.

Washington criticised for withholding funds

'US crippling UN efforts'

UNITED NATIONS, July 19, (AP): Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said that America's refusal to pay its full share of UN dues is "crippling" the efforts of the United Nations.

"It was evident that the United States looks to the United Nations for action on a very wide range of international matters," he told reporters. "Today they have one more reason for expecting assistance from the United Nations, for being grateful to the United Nations for the way in which the UN Security Council and the office of the Secretary-General worked."

Last Friday, the Secretary-General travelled to Washington

to meet President Ronald Reagan, Vice-President and Republican presidential candidate George Bush, and other senior officials.

"I did not receive assurances that the administration is prepared to return to full funding," said Perez de Cuellar, "nor to send to the US Congress the letter of determination... for the early release of \$44 million, which had been approved as part of the United States, 1987 contribution."

The United Nations assessed America dues of almost \$215 million in 1988, one-fourth of the world body's regular budget,

which excludes special peacekeeping costs.

Reagan's administration decided to pay only \$144 million, however, and has so far released only \$100 million.

Under a US congressional budget amendment, the administration must certify to Congress its satisfaction with three key issues at the United Nations for the remaining \$44 million to be released.

The United States has been seeking a greater voice in the UN's budget process, a 15-per cent cut in staffing at the United Nations, and wants more Soviet civil servants put on permanent UN contracts.

Three hanged in Amman

AMMAN, July 19, (AP): The kingdom's military court today hanged three Jordanians convicted of being members of a gang accused of committing a number of armed robberies and murders in the country.

A public security official said Fayek Abdul Aziz, Tayel Saiti and Faisal Saiti, all 22, were hanged at dawn in the kingdom's civilian prison on Amman's outskirts.

Those three in addition to Ahmed Saiti, also 22, were sentenced on June 21 by the military court to death by hanging.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, endorsed the court decision, but King Hussein reduced the sentence of Ahmed Saiti to life imprisonment with hard labour.

An official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Saiti's sentence was reduced because he "was not directly involved in murdering innocent citizens as much as others in his gang."

Arab Americans leave occupied territories

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 19, (AP): Growing number of Arab Americans are moving away from the occupied territories because of concern about their safety and their children's future during the Palestinian uprising, a US official said today.

US consulate spokesman David Good said as many as 2,000 Arab Americans, or about a quarter of those living in the West Bank and east Jerusalem, have left in recent months.

"Unsettled conditions" of life in the occupied territories because of the seven-month-old Palestinian uprising is the main reason, he said.

"Many people are concerned about their children's education or about them being caught up in violence," Good told the Associated Press.

The Israeli military administration closed Arab schools in the West Bank for four months during the uprising and, in addition, cut short the scholastic year by about a month.

Many of the 224 Palestinians

who have been killed since the unrest broke out on Dec 9 are teenagers. Four Israelis also have died.

Return

Faris Buhafa, spokesman for the Washington-based American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, said some departing Arab Americans planned to return once conditions were calmer in the occupied territories.

Buhafa, who said his eight-year-old organisation has 61 chapters and 20,000 members in the United States, is here to expand the role of the group's east Jerusalem branch, which was established three months ago.

Buhafa, 41, said the Jerusalem office would gather first-hand information about alleged Israeli harassment of Arab Americans and give the reports to the US State Department.

About a dozen complaints of Army brutality have been registered with the US consulate in east Jerusalem, US officials said.

Response to Soviet supplies to Kabul

US defends arming of Afghan rebels

WASHINGTON, July 19, (UPI): The United States is continuing to arm the Afghan resistance because the Soviet Union has persisted in supplying weapons to the Kabul government, an administration spokeswoman said today.

The statement suggests that the administration believes the Soviet Union may be violating an April 14 agreement providing for an end to outside interference in Afghan internal affairs.

State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley did not explicitly accuse the Soviets of violating this accord, agreed to in Geneva by Afghanistan, Pakistan and the two superpowers.

However, Oakley said: "At the time of settlement, we indicated to the Soviets that we would continue aid to the resistance unless the Soviets stopped assistance to the illegitimate regime in Kabul. It has not, we will not."

She added a conciliatory note, saying: "If the Soviets exhibited restraint, we would be willing to do so also."

Interference

A State Department official who asked not to be identified said the administration interpreted the Geneva accord to bar both superpowers from interfering in Afghan affairs. He said the Soviets have construed it to be a restriction on the United States

alone. "The Soviets knew we interpreted the language to be reciprocal when they signed the agreement," the official said.

Soviet officials have complained of US and Pakistani violations of the accord and have threatened to retaliate by slowing withdrawal of their 115,000 troops from Afghanistan. By the end of June, about 23,000 had left, according to Soviet officials.

The official Soviet news agency Tass last week accused Pakistan of organizing caravans of up to 500 pack animals to carry weapons and ammunition to the area of Jalalabad between June 15 and July 7.

Halt

Oakley did not specify the type or quantity of weapons being furnished either by the Soviet Union or the United States. A department official said the Soviets had been turning over their weapons and equipment to the Afghan government as they vacated the country. A Soviet general has been quoted as saying his troops intended to leave behind 1 billion in supplies.

The administration has in the recent past funneled portable Stinger anti-aircraft missiles, rifles, ammunition and heavy mortars through Pakistan.

The Washington Post reported Saturday that Pakistan had

halted the flow of almost all US-supplied weapons to the Afghan resistance. According to the newspaper, the Reagan administration approved the halt, which had been pushed for by the Soviets and the United Nations.

Oakley, while not explicitly rebutting the article, said: "We haven't the past, are now, and will continue to give the resistance the support they need to achieve their right to self-determination."

Oakley characterised the resistance as "extremely well supplied" as a result of US aid and captured weapons. She said the resistance had recently captured the equivalent of two months supply of arms and ammunition at the town of Alikheil.

Rocket fire

Meanwhile, at least eight people were killed today when residential areas of the Afghan capital, Kabul, came under rocket fire. Tass news agency reported.

"Rockets fell on the city streets and crossroads when Kabul residents were on their way to work. As a result of the explosion of one rocket alone, eight people were killed in Khairkhan district and nine others wounded," Tass said.

It said the total number of casualties in the "new crime by extremists" was not known.

Egypt: major target of terrorism

ALEXANDRIA, July 19, (UPI): Interior Minister Zaki Badr said today Egypt is "a major target" for international terrorism.

"The activities and trends that threaten Egypt's internal security at present include international terrorism. Egypt is a major target because of her unchanged position on the contemporary international and Arab issues and the Palestinian cause," Badr told a group of university students in Alexandria.

The minister cited religious extremism as a major threat to Egypt's internal security. "Among the activities that threaten Egypt's internal security is the religious extremist activity which incites sectarianism," he said.

Without being specific, Badr said a number of countries "support, back and finance" religious extremists in Egypt.

"The opposing forces inside the country are operating in full co-ordination with and the blessing of the opposing forces abroad," he said.

He also said communist activity threatens the nation's security, pointing to intellectuals who inflame the conflict among the classes.

Badr told the students that even if peace is achieved in the Middle East, "the most dangerous thing we could ever do to ourselves is to imagine that our need for military strength has become less."

Crime rate soaring in China

BEIJING, July 19, (Reuters): Murders, rapes and robberies in China have soared despite the executions of several thousand criminals each year, official reports said today.

Ren Jianxin, president of the Supreme People's Court, said drug-running and serious corruption cases were increasing because of Beijing economic policies, the People's Daily reported today.

Ren told a Beijing conference that crime had increased dramatically and called on legal authorities to "firmly smash" lawbreakers threatening social stability, the paper said.

Serious crimes were up 36 per cent in the first half of this year compared with the same period of 1987, he said. The 1987 rate was itself 25 per cent higher than the year before, according to earlier reports.

Earlier this year two clerks were stabbed to death in Beijing's worst bank robbery since the 1949 revolution, and in June students staged anti-government protests complaining of crumbling social morality after the murder of a student.

At Monday's conference, attended by Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang, Ren said cross-border drug smuggling had increased dramatically along with serious cases of bribery, tax evasion and swindling.

Most major drug cases have involved narcotics being smuggled through China to other countries, but police recently captured a heroin-processing gang inside the

Authorities blame religious strife

Fresh riots flare up in Burma

RANGOON, July 19, (Reuters): One man was killed in fresh rioting in Burma days before a crucial meeting to chart government reforms, and authorities indicated tension between Buddhists and Muslims was to blame for the disturbances.

The man was killed, seven people were injured and 34 arrested after police opened fire to stop scattered clashes in the northern town of Prome on Sunday, the Burma news agency, NAB, reported on Tuesday.

It said a curfew and a ban on gatherings was clamped on the city 270 km north-west of Rangoon on the Irrawaddy river.

Diplomats said more than 200 people had been killed in rioting and clashes with police in cities across the country since March. Last week at least three died when police opened fire in the

north-eastern city of Taunggyi.

The military-led authorities have responded by calling an extraordinary meeting of the Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP) starting on Saturday promising economic reforms and changes in the party, the dominant political power.

Appear

NAB said that, in response to a request by the government, the state Sangha Maha Mayaka committee — the supreme committee of Buddhist monks — appealed for restraint among Buddhists after the Prome clashes.

It said the Prome disturbances, which began as a result of a brawl at a tea shop had "caused misunderstanding between one religion and another" and "could only bring adverse consequences for the religion and the country."

Tea shops are traditionally run by ethnic Indians, most of whom are Muslims. The authorities also said the fighting in Taunggyi originated at a bakery that is known to be run by Muslims.

Diplomats in Rangoon and travellers in the country say the tension bubbling beneath the surface of this normally placid nation has its roots in the worsening economic conditions and repression of all forms of opposition or dissent.

The authorities historically have fought to reduce the role of non-Burmans — particularly Indians and Chinese — in the economy, a legacy of British colonial days.

In the past they have sometimes sought to deflect domestic tensions, including over rice shortages, by laying the blame with "foreign merchants."

Officials see no change in Cairo's policy

'US aid to Egypt ineffective'

WASHINGTON, July 19, (AP): Two groups of US officials have criticised the spending of millions of dollars in aid to Egypt as inefficient and failing to bring policy changes sought there by the US government.

In the year that ended Sept 30, 1987, Egypt received \$819.7 million of US "economic support funds."

A spokesman for one of the two groups, Timothy O'Leary of the US Agency for International Development (AID), said on Monday that \$115 million of the aid was transferred in cash to the government of President Hosni Mubarak. Most of the remainder was spent on specific projects in

Egypt.

Egypt and some other countries "have indicated that they prefer cash to project assistance because they can use it immediately to meet pressing economic needs," said a report by the US General Accounting Office (GAO) to the subcommittee on the Middle East of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the House of Representatives.

The report did not specify what those needs are. Egypt spends \$2.2 billion per year on food subsidies and finances a \$44 billion foreign debt.

The cash transfer to Egypt from the United States was based on a document that described in

broad terms the policy changes that the US government expected from Egypt but gave no details on how progress would be measured, the report said.

It said that although the document listed Egyptian policy reforms since the previous cash transfer, it did not explain their meaning or how they related to what the US had asked.

A comment from the State Department, without specifically mentioning Egypt, suggested that there are countries where the act of setting reform targets in advance will fuel political opposition on the ground that foreigners are dominating economic policy.

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Rajiv party wins Kashmir by-election

SRINAGAR, July 19, (Reuters): Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) party has held on to win a controversial by-election that took more than a month to decide.

Muhammad Ayub Khan held on to the Udhampur parliamentary seat for Congress by just over 2,000 votes, election officials announced last night.

Bhim Singh, candidate of the united opposition, immediately threatened to go on a hunger strike in protest at what he called an election victory stolen from him.

Singh was leading by over 30,000 votes at one point during the counting of the original vote of June 16, a day on which Congress defended seven parliamentary seats and lost five of them in a setback that prompted Rajiv to make major political changes.

As the original Udhampur count came to a close, Singh found his lead down to a few hundred votes and complained of rigging. An electoral inquiry found evidence of vote fraud in several polling booths and ordered a fresh ballot at them.

The re-poll took place on July 12, but monsoon rains that triggered landslides and blocked roads prevented the ballot boxes being brought to the counting centre until Monday.

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Implementing the ceasefire

Difficulties lie ahead

By Jadranka Porter

FOREIGN ambassadors accredited to Kuwait broke into a spontaneous applause on Monday evening when Iran's charge d'affaires confirmed his country's readiness to accept the UN resolution calling for a cease-fire in the nearly eight-year-old Gulf war.

But an instant relief gave way to concern over some hard questions that still need answering. "There is some hard work to be done. As we say the devil is in the detail," said one envoy.

The Iranian diplomat, Mohammed Farouhi, was asked to address the envoys at a reception hosted by the acting dean of the diplomatic corps, the Algerian Ambassador, El Hassanou Khaldi, in honour of three departing ambassadors — Dr Wolfgang Steininger of Austria, David McCracken of Canada and Marcel Laugel of France.

Meeting
Farouhi reportedly said that two days before the announcement top Iranian officials met in Tehran at a meeting attended by Ahmed Khomeini, the Ayatollah's son, who conveyed his father's decision to accept the UN Security Council cease-fire resolution 598.

The first reaction among the diplomats was one of astonishment followed by relief, said some of those who were present. They described the move as a step in the right direction but warned of potential difficulties lying ahead.

"The resolution 598 is not only about a cease-fire. Questions such as who started the war and those concerning the war reparations and prisoners of war are among the issues to be tackled," the Austrian ambassador said in an interview with the Arab Times.

He stressed that confidence building measures are urgently needed at this point in time. "Confidence is of a paramount importance. You have to ask a question: Do we trust the other side. You cannot build up confidence overnight. It takes time and considerable skill," said Steininger.

Territory

He felt that the Iranians were driven to the acceptance of resolution 598 by the enormous cost involved in the financing of the war effort. But the move may have also been facilitated by the developments in the last two weeks which led to the stationing of troops from the warring countries at the internationally recognised borders, he said. "This means no bargaining over the territory will be necessary," he added.

Some observers have expressed surprise that Iran had chosen to accept a cease-fire after the bargaining chip it used to have where it occupied some of the Iraqi territory was snatched from it.

But the Austrian envoy pointed out that bargaining over territory carries with it a risk of a deadlock.

"After all the Iranians have repeatedly said that they had no

claims on Iraqi territory. With the situation we have now this point is immediately solved," said Steininger.

Some diplomats attach an importance to the fact that Ayatollah Khomeini delegated his son to convey the message to the Iranian leadership raising speculation over the Imam's health.

Isolation

Iran's growing isolation on the international scene is seen as another powerful incentive for a change in its attitude.

"A country of that size and potential has a more important role to play on the international scene," said one diplomat.

It is generally believed that the superpowers' efforts to solve the regional conflicts has had a positive effect. The simplistic view that the superpowers could end the conflict at will was unproductive, claim some analysts.

"President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev are not illusionists. They expressed a firm intention to seek a settlement in the regional conflicts," said one observer.

He stressed that both Iraq and Iran now need a wise leadership and outside help to rebuild their countries as the differences between them cannot be removed at a stroke of a pen.

The two countries will have to confirm their peaceful intentions by diverting their military efforts and spending into a massive reconstruction of their devastated economies and war-weary nations, say the analysts.



HH the Amir meeting the chairman of the Public Welfare Societies, where they expressed their gratitude to the material aid His Highness provided. The meeting was also attended by Minister of Information and Acting Social and Labour Affairs Minister, Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Ahmed and Undersecretary for Youth Affairs, Abdul Rahman Yousif Al Mazroui.

Sheikh Sabah meets Soviet ambassador

ACTING Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed yesterday received the Soviet ambassador to Kuwait Ernest Zverev.

Following the meeting, Sheikh Sabah said that the exchange dwelt on bilateral relations and latest developments in Afghanistan.

Sheikh Sabah later received separately the Minister of Defence Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmed, Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs Dhari Al-Othman, Minister of State for Housing and Acting Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Nasser Abdulla Al-Rawdhani and Charge d'Affairs of the Saudi Embassy Saeed Al-Ghamdi.

No religious extremism in Kuwait: Naser

THE Undersecretary of Kuwait's Ministry of Awkaf and Islamic Affairs, Mohammed Naser, was quoted in an interview with the daily Al-Sayassah as stating "there is no religious extremism in Kuwait."

However, he added, there could be some fanatics as is the case in other parts of the world.

Speaking of the World Islamic Charitable Authority based in Kuwait, Al-Hamdan said the ministry was responsible for this authority. He disclosed that the ministry extended support to a great number of Islamic charitable authorities, including the setting up of hospitals, schools, shelters and publications.

Concluding, the undersecretary disclosed that the ministry was involved in the application of several administrative development programmes including the organising of the ministry.

Replying to a question about relations between the Ministry of Awkaf and Islamic Affairs at the Zakat House, he said, the Zakat House was an independent institution chaired by the Minister of Awkaf and Islamic Affairs and there was close co-operation between the ministry and the house.

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Concluding, the undersecretary disclosed that the ministry was involved in the application of several administrative development programmes including the organising of the ministry.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audience

HH the Amir received in his office yesterday acting Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmed.

Money game ends for thousands of players

By Fatima Ahmed

A ROCKET start to a money career ended for about 15,000 people after a directive was issued earlier this week by the Central Bank of Kuwait banning Dollar Jet, a money game, run by a Vienna-based company, Commerce Control Inc. (CCI).

The issue of demand drafts for the value of \$25 in favour of CCI was stopped by the Central Bank, which in its directive said the game "amounts to gambling." "Gambling is forbidden by Islam."

The directive has been received only by exchange companies. The spokesmen of some banks, when contacted yesterday, said they had not received the Central Bank memo.

Despite the Central Bank ruling some unregistered exchange companies are still issuing drafts in favour of the CCI.

Risk
The drafts are sent by players to keep the money rolling by new players who join the game. The risk involved was in not sending the money.

The game had become a rage in Kuwait. During the last six

months thousands of expats and citizens in Kuwait either had played or intended to play the game. If neither, they at least heard about the game. It had gained popularity among the white collar workers as "we had nothing to lose and we were not gambling," as one player put it.

The players contend that their "money game" is not gambling. According to the rules of the game a player has to buy a ticket for \$25. He sends a draft for that amount to the parent company in Vienna and a similar sum to the person listed in the No. 1 spot on his voucher. He also has to sell four tickets. The buyers had to repeat the procedure.

A total of five players are involved in the game initially.

Players estimated that about 3,000 groups of five members each exist in Kuwait. Roughly 15,000 people were playing the game. More players could be involved.

"No one could lose," said one player, "if the circle is not broken."

The circle has busted due to Central Bank intervention. Many players have lost thousands of dollars as they bought more than one ticket and then circulated them among family members. One player stands to lose over \$1,500.

Fortunes

What encouraged players in Kuwait was the fortunes of some players who got cash prizes of between \$400 and \$7,000, as their game continued for over five weeks. CCI promises handsome returns after five weeks. A CCI voucher tells players to "relax and get rich" and claims that the Dollar Jet System is "neither a lottery nor a game of chance... but is based on a logical arithmetical system."

Bangladesh School results



Razia: top

ALL the six students of the Bangladesh School, Kuwait, who took the Secondary School Certificate examination held in March this year have passed. Four of them were placed in the first division with distinction in different subjects. Miss Razia Begum topped the list with distinctions in general mathematics and elective mathematics. The other two students were placed in the second division.

Saudis extend deadline for Indian pilgrims

NEW DELHI, July 19. (KUNA) In a rare gesture of goodwill, the Saudi government extended till tonight the deadline for entry of over 400 Indian pilgrims.

This was done in response to an urgent request made by the Indian government as the pilgrims could not board the last flight on Sunday because of the delay in completion of their travel documents.

Air India today operated a special flight between Delhi-Bombay-Jeddah to carry the stranded pilgrims. The irate pilgrims and their relatives resorted to violence at the Delhi Haj Committee and tore passports, bank drafts and tickets to protest the

"mismanagement" of the committee in Bombay.

This is the first time that the Saudi government allowed Indian pilgrims to enter the kingdom after the scheduled date.

Under the Saudi law all entry points of the kingdom are closed for pilgrims four days before the haj. The pilgrims belong to Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

The Saudi embassy here said that they had completed travel documents for the pilgrims much too earlier and the delay was not caused by it. Over 23,000 Indian pilgrims are performing the haj. Most of them had already reached the kingdom in special haj flights operated by the Air India, Kuwait Airways and Saudia.

Symposium on engineering

THE head of the delegation of the Kuwait Society of Engineers to the symposium held in Tunis recently entitled "Arab Engineers and Modern Technology" Bader Saied Abdul Wahab Al-Rifai informed a local daily that discussion at the symposium covered 16 topics.

He added that from these, six were contributed by Kuwaiti engineers dealing with Arab scientific environment, transfer of technology and problems facing the industrialisation of Arab technologies.

Other subjects discussed at the symposium dealt with the development of Arab cities, upgrading the skills of Arab engineers, ways to ensure successful technological progress in the Arab world, use of computers in the engineering field, Arab

industrialisation policies and other relevant topics.

The rapporteur of the second preparatory symposium Hamed Ahmad lauded the recommendations adopted by the symposium as they reflected the aspirations of the Arab Engineering Society and sought to develop a special strategy whereby foreign technologies could be transferred and tailored to Arab development objectives.

He also lauded the recommendation to Arabise the engineering literature to maximise utilisation of international engineering disciplines and expertise. The rapporteur said other recommendations called for the motivation of Arab engineers' individual initiative and unification of Arab engineering specifications as well as increasing the exchange of expertise between Arab countries.

Visiting hours

AN official source at the Public Authority for Agricultural and Fisheries Affairs said that for the first day of Eid Al-Adha Kuwait Zoo's visiting hours will be 2:00 pm till a half hour before sunset. For the rest of Eid Al-Adha and the day of Arafat Mount, visiting hours will be from 9:00 am until an hour before sunset.

Street closes

AN authoritative source at the General Traffic Department announced that Ali Al-Saleem Street will be closed due to road construction. The source added that this closure will affect only the side of the street that begins from the cross-road with Fahd Al-Saleem Street to Hilali Street.

Newsman killed on war front

ONE of the members of the Kuwaiti press delegation was killed in a tragic accident at the Iraqi-Iranian front last Saturday.

Reporting on the incident, a local daily stated that it occurred in the Zubaidat area which was recently liberated by Iraqi forces. Visibility in the area was reported to be zero due to sand storms and an Iraqi tank withdrawing from the Iranian lands crashed into the car in which the victim and a number of reporters of Kuwaiti dailies were travelling in.

The victim Mashhour Salama a correspondent of Mirat Al-Umma weekly magazine was in one of the two cars transporting correspondents of Kuwaiti dailies.

The accident occurred five kilometres inside Iraqi territory. All other correspondents escaped unhurt.

The death is the first of a journalist at the Iraqi-Iranian front since the inception of the war in 1980.

Big fire

A FIRE which broke out in Al-Rai industrial area yesterday morning, destroyed three furniture factories and a printing house. The combined efforts of Shuwaikh fire brigade and the area brigade brought the fire under control.

Museum timings

KUWAIT Scientific Museum will open for the public during the second and third days of Eid Al-Adha at 5:00 pm. After Eid, the timings will be as usual on Sat. Sun. Mon and Wed. — 5:00 pm. The museum will open from 9:00 am on Fridays.

Jha meets

N.N. JHA, the Ambassador of India, yesterday met with Sheikh Salem Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, the Minister of Interior. They discussed bilateral issues and means to further strengthen co-operation between the two countries.



The Egyptian Embassy in Kuwait held a reception on Monday at the Sheraton Hotel on the occasion of the 36th anniversary of the July Revolution. Picture shows the Egyptian Ambassador, Saeed Refaat (left), welcoming Chinese Ambassador to Kuwait, Guan Zihui. (Photo by Mohammad Abbas).

BAHRAIN, July 19. (Reuters): More than a million people have been killed in nearly eight years of war in the Gulf fought with tanks, gas, missiles, by chattering children and fighter pilots in a brutal blend of medieval and the modern.

The war, interrupted by Iran's acceptance of a United Nations-sponsored ceasefire yesterday, sucked the great powers into the fringes of the conflict.

Anxious to keep the sealanes of the Gulf open and secure oil supplies through the Strait of Hormuz, both East and West sent warships to patrol the Gulf and protect their interests.

Clashed

The United States had the most visible presence in the Gulf and its fleet of warships clashed several times with Iranian gunboats.

Then on July 3 the US cruiser Vincennes shot out of the sky an Iran Air passenger aircraft, killing all 290 people on board. Washington said the aircraft was mistaken for a hostile F-14 fighter.

Iran's military supreme Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani yesterday described the shooting-down of the Airbus as the deciding factor in his country's acceptance of the ceasefire.

"The watershed was the crash of our passenger plane that... came across as America's declaration that it might commit huge crimes if Iran continued the war," Rafsanjani said.

Rafsanjani said that before talks could be held on the final solution of the issue (the war),

foreign forces should leave the Gulf.

The war started with a dispute over territory — the Shatt Al-Arab waterway, which runs down the Iran-Iraq border to the Gulf. It was shared as a key outlet for the oil exports of both.

Iraq said the first shots were fired on Sept 4, 1980, when Iran shelled Iraqi land along the border.

Less than two weeks later on Sept 17, 1980, Iraq tore up a 1975 treaty signed with the late Shah of Iran stipulating the border ran through the middle of the Shatt's deepest channel and the two nations would jointly control it.

Iraq's Arab populace and Iran have a centuries old history of ethnic and cultural antagonisms.

Inflame
Baghdad feared the Iranian revolution, led by spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini, would inflame Iraq's own Shi'ite Muslims — about half its 16 million population.

Baghdad hoped the Islamic Republic would collapse — it did not. The Iraqi offensives bogged down and Iran turned the tables, pushing into Iraqi territory and threatening Iraq's southern port city of Basra.

But the years of attribution took their toll on Iran and in mid-April this year it lost Iraq's southern Faw peninsula, occupied more than two years earlier.

Defeat followed defeat — Salamiyah, the Majnoon islands, the towns of Dehloran and Mehran, Zubaidat and Halabja — Iran was on the

retreat after years with the upper-hand.

Reliable casualty figures are scarce in a conflict between countries that tightly control information and the tactics of which have included human-wave assaults and missile attacks on each other's capitals.

Conservative estimates put the toll at more than a million dead, including many civilians, but it is doubtful the true numbers of those buried on the battlefields will ever be known.

The international committee of the Red Cross says Iran holds more than 40,000 Iraqi prisoners and Iraq about 12,000 Iranians.

The battlefield has embraced 1,200 kms (750 miles) of border that twists from the mountain redoubts of Kurdish tribesmen near Turkey in the north through central deserts to swampy oil-fields around Basra to the Gulf estuary.

Iraq got its military supplies from both the Soviet Union and the Western powers.

It had the edge in artillery and tanks and controlled the skies over the Gulf with fighter-bombers such as the French-made super Etendard armed with lethal Exocet missiles.

Iran, increasingly isolated under its fundamentalist Muslim leadership, had to rely on ageing, poorly-serviced US equipment left over from the Shah's military stockpiles.

Late in the war it did obtain such modern weaponry as Chinese-made Silkworm missiles and Soviet-made Scuds used to

Future prospects are favourable

Businessmen expect a windfall

(Continued from Page 1)

for the intervention by the authorities to suspend trading due to run-away business.

On Monday afternoon the National Bank shares, the leader shares on the market, went up by 60 fils to 960 fils per share in a single trading session. This was close to a daily stock limit order of 10 per cent, said Wafa Al-Rasheed of Kuwait Stock Exchange.

Conviction

Other shares were expected to follow, she said yesterday morning.

Many commodity entrepreneurs who acted on their conviction that peace would eventually come to the region had the foresight to stockpile on essential items which would be in immediate demand by the two war ravaged nations.

Several merchants in Kuwait are reported to have stockpiled millions of dollars worth of drilling and ancillary equipment, timber, steel, cement and construction materials. This is believed to be only a fraction of the total supplies.

"Kuwait is a huge warehouse of spare parts, building materials and equipment," said one observer.

Fishermen say they look forward to going out in their boats to locations where fishing was most abundant but where they

were prohibited to go as a result of the Gulf war.

Kuwait is expected to reap vast benefits from re-export trade and businessmen are waiting with bated breath to embark on projects to rebuild facilities in the war damaged Iraq and Iran.

Kuwaiti government is also expected to lift restrictions on financing of local projects, a move expected to bring in new contingents of foreign labour.

Commercial shipping which suffered severely in the past four years is expected to boom while the insurance which incurred great losses will get back on its feet again, said Al-Ameen.

Expectations of a windfall are also linked to hopes that oil prices will rise. But an oil expert in Kuwait warns that the current increase is based on speculation rather than on fundamentals.

He said that the Gulf states, which are said to have triggered the price war to damage Iran's economy, might be willing to act as swing producers to facilitate the recovery of Iraq's and Iran's economies.

He thought that the OPEC producers would enter a fresh phase of co-operation and would establish the official selling price structure once Iraq joins the production quota system.

Economists predict that with the growing demand the consumer prices in Kuwait will rise but opinions are split on the issue

of wages. Al-Ameen believes that higher prices and an influx of labour may push the wages. Other analysts expect the government would preclude any sudden increase in prices.

A businessman with an office in Shuwaikh said he would offer attractive wages to the newly recruited staff, higher than those received by workers he currently employs.

Prices of real estate are expected to rise in short term but with 30,000 flats currently empty the increase will be moderate, said Al-Ameen.

Tenants are protected from sharp increases in rents by the government rule which allows landlords to double the prices only once in five years.

Travel restrictions in the Gulf are also expected to be eased off encouraging the prospects of Kuwait's hoteliers who have been recording only about 50 per cent occupancy over the past few years. Scientific and cultural activity will intensify with more seminars and conferences to be hosted in Kuwait.

Specifications

THE petroleum technology department at Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research will participate in the laying down of Kuwaiti and Gulf standard specifications for lubrication oils.

EVENTS

VIDEO CORNER

Poetic clues end killer hunt

By Shaun Seekins

A COMPLAINT often made by video viewers is that some of the grandeur of a film is lost when transferred to the small screen, with Cop, punctuated as it is by scenes of horrific violence, the viewer should be happy that the gory details are somewhat softened. James Woods usually plays the twitchy psychopath, but in this film where he doubles as co-producer, he plays a twitchy LAPD detective sergeant whose idea of fun is to work all night long, away from the disenchanted wife and loving infant daughter. First on the scene at the reported killing of a young woman, Hopkins

(Woods) finds a bloody corpse suspended upside down. Nearby a verse written in blood suggests that he's probably dealing with a serial killer.

With considerable help from his Dutch Uncle colleague at the department, Peiz (Charles Durning), who feeds him files of previous unsolved murders, Hopkins obsessively pieces together a case. Further investigation leads him to Kathleen McCarthy (Lesley Ann Warren), owner of a feminist bookshop and recipient, over the years, of a series of poems from an unknown admirer. The dates of the poems just happen to coincide with all those unsolved earlier killings. It transpires that the killer is avenging himself on all the



James Woods plays the tough policeman in Cop.

women that he believes have unfairly spurned his beloved Kathleen. Hopkins steamrolls his way through all the rules and regulations and is suspended from duty. However, he ignores this to eventually confront his man in the gymnasium of the old school.

Ping Pong is set far from the dark streets of Los Angeles, in fact, in London's Chinatown. It begins with a marvellous atmospheric shot swooping down to a dark alley to focus on a telephone kiosk where the dead body of Sam Wong is to be found.

A young law student Elaine Choi (Lucy Sheen) has been asked to execute the dead man's will, Macao-born but a resident in England since a baby, she

finds her attempts to understand the Chinese mentality completely bewildering. Wong has crammed his will with all sorts of conditions which both alarm and annoy his large family. For instance, his estranged son, Mike (David Yip) must restore Sam's restaurant to traditional Chinese and accompany his father's body home to China in order to gain his inheritance.

There are two additional puzzles for the persistent Elaine who can't even speak (let alone read Chinese); who was Sam speaking to when he died, and who is the mysterious Sarah Lee mentioned in the document?

Starting off as a thriller, British born Po Chih Leong's ninth

feature film soon develops into a gently wise and witty comedy drama of culture clash. This might sound a bit predictable (and of limited interest) but such is the director's cinematic skill and flair for the unusual shot that the viewer is caught up in the alien world that normally we would never see in our day to day lives.

Masquerade is an exciting dramatic thriller starring Meg Tilly and Rob Lowe. Set among the east coast 'sailing set', it tells the story of a rich young heiress who falls for the young skipper on the southern ocean, but all is not what it seems. Does he love her for herself or does the age-old spectre of self-interest and filthy lucre raise its ugly head. The matter is complicated by a scheming stepfather who wants all the money for himself and a local cop who thinks that he should be a beneficiary as well. A good film that managed to keep me awake and interested on my last flight coming to Kuwait. A compliment indeed!

Another dramatic thriller just released is The Late Show starring Art Carney and Lily Tomlin. New cartoons for children and new Top of the Pops are also available.

The above films are by courtesy of VFI Fintas/Farwaniya; Video Nauf, Salmiya; and Video Club, Salmiya. Tel: 5724372.



David Yip plays the estranged son in Ping Pong.

Arab Gulf Theatre to celebrate silver jubilee

WRITERS, critics and performers from all over the Gulf and Arab world will take part in the silver jubilee celebrations of the Arab Gulf Theatre group in Kuwait. The weeklong celebrations will be held from October 25 this year.

Well-known stage actors and actresses from Baghdad, Cairo, Damascus, Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Qatar, Bahrain and the UAE are expected to participate in the celebration.

The group, which has celebrated its silver jubilee with much fanfare. It will be held under the patronage of HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah.

The director of Arab Gulf Theatre, Abdul Aziz Al Sarai, said they will publish a book documenting their activities over the last 25 years. The book will also focus on the five



important stages of theatrical development, covering their association with such actors as Rahal Saqar Al Rushoud and writer Abdul Aziz Al Sarai when they staged a play called Shayateen Laila Al Juma.



A scene from one of the plays presented by the Arab Gulf Theatre group.



Al Faraj and Al Sallal in a scene from Hada Al Saifo.

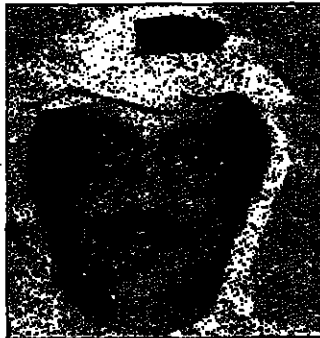
Al Faraj talks about Hada Al Saifo

War of words over controversial play

KUWAITI actor Saad Al Faraj, recently criticised for staging a controversial play called "Hada Al Saifo" (This is the Sword) has said that its unpopularity does not bother him. He hopes to reopen the play after summer.

In an interview with an Arabic newspaper, Al Faraj said: "I don't want to defend the play. We are actors and performers, putting forward ideas to spark a healthy debate on topical issues and are open to criticism, good or bad."

Hada Al Saifo, a play on national unity, made disparaging remarks in one scene about fundamentalists and mullahs. It was a satire on certain aspects of Islam, Kuwaiti and Arab critics gave unfavourable reviews. Actor Ibrahim Al Sallal, who played a crucial role in the play, withdrew from the play and lashed out against the other performers including Al Faraj and Abdul Hussain Abdul Rida. Al Sallal's views, published by the Arabic press,



Abdul Hussain Abdul Rida

blamed Al Faraj's group for the "insensitive depiction of Islam." Later, Al Sallal sent a letter of apology to all the performers associated with the play.

Al Faraj said that all performers thrive on healthy, constructive criticism, and it is a sign that an actor or writer has made it big. "Any good actor or playwright expects positive or negative reaction; approval or disapproval of the public helps him to develop as an artist," he

said. Shock viewers wrote to newspapers, demanding a ban on the play. Al Faraj feels that the play was reviewed unfairly. He said "most critics" did not see the play but speculated on its contents and theme, giving biased views based on what they heard from "their friends."

He said: "It is not right for someone to criticise a play without even seeing it: a critic can't depend on the comments of others and write about them. He must judge a work on its merits, after seeing it." Al Faraj plans to invite all his critics to see Hada Al Saifo when it re-opens after summer.

Commenting on the role of theatre, Al Faraj said "through literature and drama we hope to destroy negative currents, spark intellectual debates and help the growth of healthy individuals." He feels that Hada Al Saifo fit the bill and was one of his most successful plays.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

German Painting Exhibition

An exhibition of German paintings at the Kuwait Hilton Hotel, open daily until July 20. More than 30 paintings, representing the work of a group of German artists known as The Blue Rider, will be shown in the Hilton's lobby. The show has been organised by the German Embassy in Kuwait.

Islamic Arts Museum

The museum, located on Arab Gulf Street, is open from 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Saturday to Thursday. A collection of the finest Islamic art objects are on show.

Tareq Rajab Museum

The museum in Jabriya houses a collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world. Summer timings are 9 am to 12 noon and 4 to 7 pm, Sat. thru Thurs. On Friday the museum is open only in the mornings.

SOCIAL

German-speaking Cultural Association

The regular coffee mornings, for ladies will continue on a small scale during the summer

months. Coffee mornings will be held on Sunday, August 7 at Kuwait Hilton's La Patisserie from 10 am on those days. All German-speaking women are welcome.

Onam Festival

The Viswabarathi Theatres, Abbasiya, will celebrate Onam on Aug 25 at the Indian Arts Circle. IAC President M. Mathews will be the chief patron. The programme comprises Onam songs, Mohiniyattam, classical dances, Thiruvathirakkali, folk dances, light music, one-act play, boat race and Kerala rural arts. Those interested in taking part contact Lazar Varghese — 4314511; Thomas Perumpilly — 4810490 ext. 207; Varghese Paradayil — 2422973.

D'Assisi Association

The association will hold a social evening-cum-variety show on August 11 at Messilah Beach Hotel. The event is part of the 40th anniversary of Indian independence. Top Ranks and Next of Kin will be in attendance. For details contact Leena — 2469811, 9.30 am to 5 pm; Henry 3291909 (am), 3717346 (pm) or Augustin 5746754, after 6 pm.

Summer Belle 88

The United Goans Centre will hold their annual Summer Belle 88 contest on August 11 at the SAS Hotel's The Tent. The

gala event marks the 10th anniversary of UGC. Entertainment includes music by Stepping Stones and City Limits. For further details contact Tony Goncalves — 2612024 or Joe Fernandes 5655140.

Y.M.C.A.

The Y.M.C.A. will present the "Come September Ball" at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel on September 1. Highlights include the selection of the Queen of Queens. Top Ranks will be in attendance.

IAC Ghazal Evening

The Indian Arts Circle (IAC) will hold a ghazal-cum-dance evening to celebrate Eid Al Adha on July 28, 7.30 pm. IAC members and their guests are welcome. For entry passes call IAC — 3904817.

HOTELS

At the Sheraton

Mangoes in the coffee shop; dishes featuring the mango will be offered for a week.

Dine in the Riccardo restaurant to enjoy Italian cuisine; music by the Sienna Duo.

Every Sunday, enjoy Lebanese cuisine at the Al Hamra, which features seafood specialities every Wednesday night. Live entertainment is provided by the Lords.

The Hunt Room offers authentic English atmosphere and features a selection of the best

grilled food; music by the solo harpist, Harp Dreams.

At the Hilton

La Palma has introduced a lunch and dinner buffet cycle featuring a variety of Arabic and international dishes, soups, mezzes, salads and desserts to suit all tastes. Open daily from 6.30 am to midnight.

Beat the summer heat at the La Patisserie, offering ice cream creations, fresh fruit juice and fruit cocktail creations. Open daily from 10.30 am to 10.45 pm. In the evenings, listen to piano music played by the in-house pianist Richard.

At the Ramada

El Bender coffee shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to 12 midnight; a la carte also featured.

The take-away counter, open daily from 4 pm to 11 pm, offers a selection of Arabic sandwiches and snacks.

The Lobby Lounge offers a selection of coffee, tea, juice, cakes and pastries.

At the Continental

The Gardenia, open from 7 am to midnight, offers dinner buffet on Thursdays; the buffet features grilled specialities. The Friday lunch features Indian, Arab and Continental cuisine. The Darbar offers an Indian buffet lunch daily except Fridays and a la carte for dinner.

At the Holiday Inn

Tropical melon delights are being promoted in various outlets at the hotel... Al Ahmadi coffee shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 6 am to 1 am; a la carte also offered.

At the Meridien

La Brasserie, open from 12 noon to 4 pm, offers breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Beat the summer heat with cool juices offered in the lobby lounge; musical entertainment is provided in the evenings.

SPORTS

IVth Winners Cup

The Y.M.C.A. will hold the All Kuwait Open IVth Winners Cup cricket tournament, beginning September. It will be played on Fridays and holidays at the KOC ground, Ahmadi.

Teams wishing to participate can contact Joe D'Sa. Tel: 3981790, 3-5 pm; 3924659, 5-8 pm.

PBAK bowling tournament

The PBAK inter-commercial bowling tournament will be held in the second week of August. All companies wishing to take part are requested to register on or before August 7 at the 300 Club. For details contact PBAK director Sarah Macarimbang — 4843447.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.30 Space Adventure: cartoons
- 10.15 Tamar Al Shok: daily serial, with Abdul Munim Madbouli, Fatima Tabea, Rashwan Tawfiq
- 11.00 News Summary/Good Morning
- 11.15 Abla Munira: local serial, featuring Khalid Al Nafisi, Muna Jabr, Saad Airdash, Dawood Hussein, Mohammad Al Mana
- 12.00 Good Morning/News Summary
- 12.15 People and Sports
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 World News via Satellite
- 2.30 Fursan Al Hikmah: Arabic serial
- 3.35 Bill and Sebastian: cartoon serial
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.05 Magazine D'Actualite
- 4.25 John Paul Jones: English feature film: 1959. Starring Robert Stack, Marisa Pavan, Charles Coburn. Store of 18th century American hero.
- 6.00 Bunduq Wa Bunduq: children's serial, starring Liza, Abdul Rahman Abu Zahra
- 7.00 Talk Show: tonight's discussion focusses on traffic problems
- 8.00 Wa Qalat Al Arab: "And the Arab



O'Hara follows the 'Shootout Witnesses', 8.40 pm on KTV 2 tonight.

- 8.45 Said: Arabic serial
- 9.00 Folklore
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Rajul Fi Mahnah: second and last episode of the Arabic serial, featuring Khalid Zaki and Laila Hamada.
- 10.50 Hikayat Min Al Badiya: "Al Zahra". Starring Miyad Awad, Hassan Ibrahim, Ashraf Abaza
- 11.50 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/ Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Inspector Gadget: cartoons

- 6.30 The Kids of Degraassi Street: "Casey Draws the Line". Casey and Lisa find out that co-operation is better than unfair competition
- 7.00 Computers in Control: a look at how computers are being used by people in all walks of life.
- 7.30 Growing Pains: "A Star is Born". Mike accepts a role in a school play because of a girl... and quickly finds out that there is more to acting than being on stage.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 O'Hara: "The Shootout Witnesses". A child is the only witness of a bank robbery...
- 9.30 Edge of Life: "Against the Odds". Medicine. A look at care of premature infants in hospitals in the UK.
- 10.00 Sledge Hammer: "Hammer Hits the Rocks". Hammer is thrown in jail.
- 10.30 L.A. Law: the much acclaimed series about the workings of an L.A. law firm; the personal and professional triumphs of lawyers.
- 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/ Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.



David Rasche plays Sledge Hammer, 10 pm on KTV 2.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

- 0000 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Radio Newswel
- 30 Omnibus
- 0100 News Summary followed by Outlook
- 30 Report on Religion
- 45 Country Style
- 0200 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 The World Today
- 30 The Pop Science Programme
- 0400 Newsdesk
- 30 Country Stories
- 45 Reflections
- 50 Financial News
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Report on Religion
- 45 The World Today
- 0600 Newsdesk
- 30 Meridian
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Development '88
- 0800 World News
- 09 Reflections
- 15 Classical Record Review
- 30 Brain of Britain 1988
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The World Today
- 30 Financial News followed by

- Sports Roundup
- 45 6th and 20th Folk in Britain: 13th and 27th Jazz Scene UK
- 1000 News Summary followed by Omnibus
- 30 6th and 13th A World in Edgways: 20th and 27th Trivia Test Match
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Country Stories
- 30 Meridian
- 1200 Radio Newswel
- 15 Time for Verse (ex 6th Irving Berlin Among Friends)
- 25 The Farming World
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1300 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Development '88
- 1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News
- 45 Report on Religion
- 1500 Radio Newswel
- 15 The Politics of Laughter: 20th and 27th Three Wishes
- 30 Radio Active (ex 27th Two Cheers for July)
- 1600 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Counterpoint
- 45 The World Today
- 1700 World News
- 09 Commentary
- 15 Society Today
- 30 New Ideas
- 40 Book Choice
- 45 Sports Roundup
- 1800 Newsdesk
- 30 Multitrack 2
- 1900 Outlook, opening with News Summary
- 39 Stock Market Report
- 45 Good Books

- 2000 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Assignment
- 2100 News Summary followed by Network UK
- 15 Counterpoint
- 45 Recording of the Week

ALL TIMES GMT

FM Services

- 0800 Easy Listening
- 0830 News
- 0840 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1300 Easy Listening
- 1330 News
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Easy Listening
- 1700 French Hour
- 1800 Pops
- 1900 Be Our Guest
- 2130 Pops
- 2200 Famous Classical Works
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Music
- 0200 Closedown

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Behetereen Qual
- 1916 Programme Preview
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Subha-e-Nau
- 2030 Songs
- 2040 Hidayat-e-Rabbani
- 2100 Closedown

NIGHT CHEMIST

- Kuwait
- Al Ghanem Pharmacy
- Nr. Carlton Hotel, Fahad Al Salem St.
- Loola Pharmacy
- Dasman Complex, Ahmed Al Jaber St.
- Hawalli and Nagra
- Al Najat Pharmacy
- Maryam Yusuf Al Sada Bldg., B1, 6, St. 63, Hawalli
- Salmiya and Rumaythiya
- Al Razan Pharmacy
- Fahad Al Hamad Al Khalid Bldg., Razi St.
- Fahadeel and Ahmadi
- Al Imaan Pharmacy
- Makkah St., F'heel
- New Khaitan
- Al Fahad Pharmacy
- New Khaitan
- Jahra
- Al Khalid Pharmacy
- Opp. Cooperative Society

CINEMA TODAY

- Al Andalus
- Laila Awa Kadd Ala Bakaiza
- Wa Zaghloul (Arabic)
- Starring: Suhair Babli, Issad Yunus
- Al Salmiya
- Police Academy IV
- Starring: Steve Guttenburg, Bubba Smith
- Al Hazra
- Desperately Seeking Suzan
- Starring: Madonna, Karen Young
- Drive-In
- Hikayat Nisf Million Dollar (Arabic)
- Starring: Yahya Fakhrani, Ilham Shahin
- Al Firdous
- Shermi (Hindi)
- Starring: Shatrughan Sinha, Sridevi
- Fahadeel Open-Air
- Tamacha (Hindi)

- Al Fahadeel
- Sah Al Noum (Arabic)
- Al Jahra
- Dragon Force
- Granada
- Al Jiddan Al Tulatha (Arabic)
- Sulaibikhat
- Kathaiku (Malayalam)
- Al Jleeb
- Mines of Kilimanjaro
- Ahmadi Drive-In
- Ana (Arabic)

PRAYERS

- Fajr 3.30 am
- Zuhr 11.54
- Asr 3.29 pm
- Maghreb 6.47
- Isha 8.15

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

SO long as little children are allowed to suffer, there is no true love in this world — Isadora Duncan, US dancer (1878-1927)

OPINION

Iranian decision is a bold one

TRULY, the Iranian acceptance of the UN Security Council resolution and yielding to peace, reflects a high level of political courage and we wish to record both our respect and admiration.

This decision is a clear indication that Iran is now witnessing the birth of a unified political leadership, and from this scenario, evolved the present brave decision.

Till recently, different Iranian political leaders, had conjured many dreams in the minds of its people to the extent that any deviation from the framework of those dreams spelled the end of any politician living in the state of internal struggle in Iran.

Precisely, for this reason, no Iranian leader dared voice his true feelings on the Gulf region outside the framework of its war with Iraq and were confined to speaking about exporting the revolution to the Gulf states and the world at large.

Though the Iranian decision is a brave one, we must affirm here that the happiness of the Iranian people at this decision invalidates the wrong premises of the Iranian leaders on the subject of peace.

Iranian leaders always wrongly believed that any decision towards peace would mean the end of any Iranian leader.

Rafsanjani's announcement of the Iranian acceptance of peace without conditions received unanimous Iranian public support.

This affirms the fact that people in this region are willing and look forward to living in peace and are against war — whatever be the type, sectarian or political.

In a press statement, the Iraqi President declared: "The Iranian people will remain a neighbour of Iraq as no one can shift Iran as a country which would remain as a neighbour to Arabs."

The region had incurred huge losses as a direct result of this futile war which was encouraged by arms merchants.

The region passed through eight years of miseries, exhaustion, loss of thousands of lives and approximately \$400 billion. The region was totally diverted from construction amidst international powers struggling around us — some of them with us and against the war, while others against us and for the continuation of the war.

This war has certainly affected the feelings of the people in this region. However, with the forthcoming peaceful era, coupled with wise leadership, there is no reason why the old bridges of co-operation and trust could not be reconstructed between the Arab people and the Iranian people.

Once again, we reiterate, that the Iranian decision is a bold one and the peoples of this region hope they will remain unified in adopting the decision with the same conviction as its acceptance.

The war was destructive and painful. However, we must turn our backs on the past and open a new chapter always remembering that the future is far more important than recollecting the past. Simply said, we should not overlook the future by remembering the past.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

New wave of terrorism against Western targets likely

By E.A. Wayne

WASHINGTON: The murderous Abu Nidal terrorist group apparently is striking again.

Abu Nidal is probably responsible for four to seven terrorist attacks in the last three months, counterterrorism specialists say.

"It's a fact that Abu Nidal is back in international business," says Ariel Merari, director of the Project on Low Intensity Warfare at Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies.

Specialists are asking if recent attacks mean an end to a "truce" with the Palestine Liberation Organisation and whether this will usher in a new wave of terrorism against Western targets. Abu Nidal agreed to the truce in April 1987 in an effort to reintegrate his group into the PLO.

Some believe pressures from Abu Nidal supporters and other Palestinians to respond to Israel's actions are the cause. Still others say Abu Nidal is now working part time for Iran.

Whatever the reason, the violent track record of the Abu Nidal Organisation (ANO) gives reason for concern.

Attack

Since Abu Nidal broke with the PLO in 1973, his group — the Fatah Revolutionary Council — has been responsible for at least 98 attacks resulting in more than 340 deaths and 650 injuries, according to Xavier Raufier, a terrorism expert at the University of Paris criminology institute and author of "The Nebula: Middle Eastern Terrorism."

The most spectacular attacks in recent years were against travellers in the Rome and Vienna airports in December

1985 (18 dead and 122 wounded), a Pan Am jet in Pakistan in September 1986 (18 dead and more than 30 wounded), and an Istanbul synagogue the same month (23 killed, four wounded).

ANO attacks dropped off in early 1987 as the Algerians tried to mediate a reconciliation between the mainline PLO and breakaway movements. In several instances, reconciliations occurred by the April 1987 Palestine National Council meeting.

However, since Abu Nidal was under a PLO death sentence and had such a record of violence against fellow Palestinians and others, PLO negotiator Abu Jihad (who was allegedly assassinated by Israeli commandos this year) asked Abu Nidal to prove he had changed his ways. Abu Nidal agreed to a lengthy suspension of terrorist attacks before reconciliation could proceed.

Truce

Apparently that suspension has ended with attacks in India, Jordan, Cyprus, and Sudan since March.

"Why and to what end?" US and other terrorism experts are asking.

French expert Raufier believes the actions so far do not call into question the PLO's promise not to carry out terrorist attacks in the West, nor does it preclude a renewal of the "great offensive" of the mid-1980s. "He's reminding everyone he is still present and can do it," Raufier says.

Israeli expert Merari and US specialists are more pessimistic. Merari suspects this may signal



Abu Nidal

the end of the truce, which sources say was to last only 10 months.

Raufier says reconciliation negotiations continue in Libya between the PLO and Abu Nidal and other dissident Palestinian groups. Libya is where Abu Nidal spends most of his time, while his militia, which numbers up to 1000, is based in several camps in Lebanon.

Abu Nidal reportedly mediated a cease-fire in recent Beirut fighting between Palestinian forces of PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's Al Fatah and those of the Syrian-backed Abu Musa. Raufier says his sources say Abu Nidal, whose real name is Mazen Sabri al-Banna, is telling the PLO he needs "room to manoeuvre" because his troops want to strike at Israel and other perceived enemies of the Palestinian cause.

The PLO, say Raufier and Merari, is tempted to wink at the recent incidents, because some of them are in its interests. The PLO

leadership, they say, feels constrained against using terrorism, especially so it does not undermine the West Bank uprising. But Arafat is under pressure from the rank and file to respond to recent Israeli actions. These include the April assassination of PLO No. 2 man Abu Jihad and the February bombing of a car carrying three PLO officials in Cyprus.

Warning

US officials feared the Abu Jihad assassination could "take the rape off Abu Nidal," as one put it, as well as some in the PLO. After receiving worrisome intelligence, the Reagan administration sent Arafat indirect messages warning him not to authorize anti-US actions.

Another reason for Abu Nidal's new activity, Merari says, is slow progress in building a powerful Palestinian militia in Lebanon. "There is not much glamour in this gray organisational work in south Lebanon. ... There is a factor of disappointment that he has not made a breakthrough... in affecting PLO politics," Merari says.

Western intelligence sources say Abu Nidal has apparently been under a good deal of pressure from his subordinates in Lebanon to recommence actions. Some reports suggest he has been the reluctant one.

US anti-terrorism officials are also focusing on which states might be behind the renewed attacks. They are looking at Libya and Iran.

The US exerted great pressure on Syria, to close down ANO

offices in Damascus. Syria did so last year but continues to tolerate ANO camps in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, which it dominates. Abu Nidal moved his headquarters to Libya.

Iran is also suspect because of evidence that ANO has established ties to the pro-Iranian Hezbollah in Lebanon and has approached Iranian agents offering its services. The Lebanese passports of the terrorists captured in Khartoum, for example, were reportedly in Shiite names, at least one of which was from the family of a known Hezbollah terrorist.

On March 25, an assailant tried to capture an Alitalia crew in Bombay. He wounded the Italian captain and shot at pursuers until his gun jammed and two grenades failed to explode. Under questioning, he said he was a member of the Abu Nidal Organisation and that his real target had been a Pan American jet. The grenades were of the same batch used by ANO elsewhere, experts say.

On March 23, a sack of similar grenades and materials for a bomb had been found in the Saudi Arabian consulate in Bombay. Experts speculate the terrorist was surprised before he could set a bomb. Western intelligence officials interpret the action as part of an Iranian anti-Saudi campaign. They say ANO had earlier been in contact with Iranian agents.

April 9 and 16, two car bombs exploded in Amman, Jordan. No one was killed directly, but six died as an emergency

truck turned over. The first bombing was claimed by Black September Organisation — a cover used by ANO for attacks on Jordan. Experts see the bombs as a form of pressure on Jordan not to warm to the US Middle East peace plan.

May 10, a bomb exploded at a Citibank office in New Delhi, killing one. Indian police suspect Sikh extremists. US experts suspect either Hezbollah or Abu Nidal working on Iran's behalf.

May 11, a car bomb exploded near Israel's embassy in Cyprus, killing the driver and two passengers. A telephone caller claimed the attack in the name of Abu Nidal, which is unusual. (The ANO did claim, however, the capture of eight French and Belgian boaters last November.) On April 18, Abu Nidal reportedly called the widow of slain PLO leader Abu Jihad and pledged to avenge her husband's killing with "bullets and blood... in the very near future." Experts are divided on whether ANO did the Cyprus bombing. US experts say it could have been the Lebanese terrorist group Hezbollah as well.

May 15, grenade and automatic-weapon attacks on a British club and hotel in Khartoum, Sudan, killed seven people and wounded 21. Three men with Lebanese passports were arrested and under interrogation said they were from ANO. Recently the Arab Fedayeen Cells — and ANO cover — claimed the attack. Experts see the attack as revenge for the Abu Jihad assassination, as Britain is the country that agreed to divide Palestine and create Israel. The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

Parliamentarians hold key to Lebanon's future

By Paul Bolding

BEIRUT, (Reuters): Some time in the next two months, 76 men will gather in a modest, neo-classical residence standing amid the destruction of Beirut's Green Line battlefield and take a decision crucial to the future of Lebanon.

The surviving members of the 99-seat parliament elected in 1972, moderates in a sea of extremism, are due to choose a president in whom all hopes of ending the 13-year civil war will rest.

"We want a candidate who can bear responsibility and take decisions, not make compromises. We have had enough of compromises. We want him to be courageous," said Shiite member Rafiq Shabaneh. There will be no razzmatazz, no primaries and no campaigning in the usual sense. No one will

paste up posters. There will be no list of candidates. The deputies, who can vote for anyone, whether or not he has declared himself a candidate, will just cast their ballots in secret and wait for the result.

The winner needs a two-thirds majority in the first ballot or an absolute majority in a run-off.

The election puts the spotlight on a parliament that has pressed on with its legislative work despite the break-up of Lebanon into a series of religious-based, militia-ruled fiefdoms where sect regard is paid to the law.

Voting could take place any time before the six-year term of President Amin Gemayel, a Maronite Christian, expires on Sept 23.

Any hopes Gemayel may have had of resolving the crisis have been in vain because Muslim ministers have boycotted him since January 1986 when he vetoed a peace plan that would have given Muslims more say in the political process.

A new president and a new government, it is widely assumed, will tackle the Muslims' grievances and generally take steps to maintain security and political peace.

Shabaneh rejects the widespread notion that neighbouring Syria, long intimately involved in Lebanese affairs, will effectively decide on Gemayel's successor. "Even if Syria might pass the word: Vote for this candidate or that, that does not mean we must abide by it if the candidate does not have the qualities," he said. "It is our free will... we will not vote for an unknown."

Represented Although the war has made elections impossible, the Lebanese tend to agree that the parliament has represented just about the only national symbol they have left.

"There is no unified government so the parliament has the credit for saving the unity of the Lebanese people," said Boutros Harb, an independent Maronite member.

"We have tried to take the place of the government. We give

an impression that the state still works," he said.

No clear front-running candidate has emerged for the poll. Lebanon's 1943 national covenant states the president should be a Maronite, the prime minister a Sunni Muslim and the speaker of parliament a Shiite.

A leading Lebanese weekly, *Al-Nahar* Arab and International, runs a grid showing how it thinks different militias, parties and foreign powers rate 24 leading Maronites, a list topped in a recent issue by former minister Michel Edde.

But a large number of parliamentarians, Muslims and Christians, have agreed that the next president should come from the parliament itself and the magazine placed members Rene Mouawad second and Harb 10th.

Another Maronite member, Auguste Bakhos, chairman of the Justice Committee, said the parliament had carried on debating and passing laws despite the war.

"Not all these laws are being applied, but in three months there will again be a government, a state," he said.

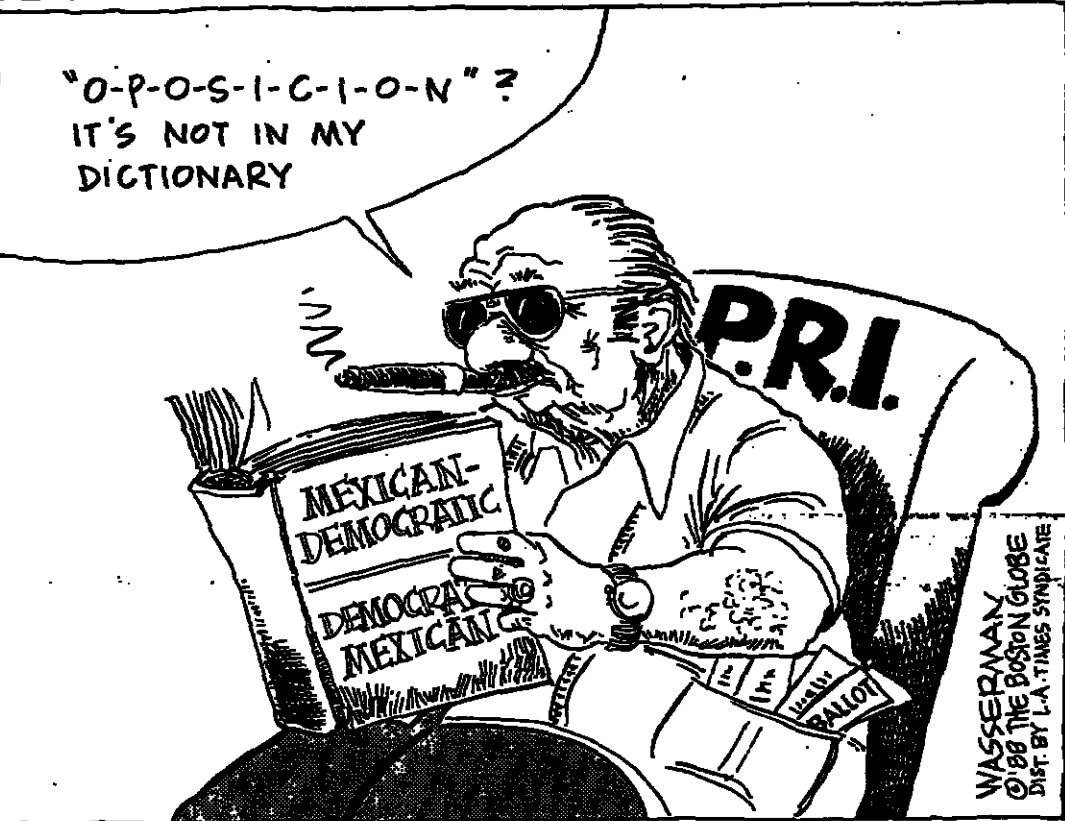
Members questioned agreed that all act with moderation and unity not typical of other spokesmen for their respective communities.

"After 14 years of civil war, the Lebanese parliamentarians really work as one group, one unit... we never took extremist points of view towards each other," said Shabaneh.

Of the original 99 members, 22 have died since the last election in 1972, and the 23rd, Gemayel, no longer occupies his seat.

The parliament moved to its present home, the Villa Mansour, in 1976, when the war made it impossible for Christian members to cross to the parliament house in Muslim west Beirut.

The building, home of parliament member Hussein Mansour, stands on the Green Line, surrounded by the burned-out ruins of other luxury mansions and of a modernist building that was to have been a new parliament.



Reconstruction of Afghanistan

Help should be available where it is needed

By Edward Girardet

ISLAMABAD: Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, the United Nations relief co-ordinator for Afghanistan, says the international aid community must act with speed and flexibility if the reconstruction of Afghanistan is to succeed.

Prince Sadruddin regards his job as a tremendous challenge, but expresses confidence that with "the resourcefulness of the Afghans, their courage, their resilience... this programme is going to be a great success. (But) they're going to have to identify what they need."

The main thing, he says, "is that help should get where it is needed, and that it should get there quickly."

In a recent interview with the Monitor, Sadruddin stressed the need for pragmatism. The UN task force, he says, should not only seek to work directly with Afghan resistance commanders, but also enlist the humanitarian support of the Soviet Union and the East bloc as part of the international relief effort.

The programme's humanitarian objectives should not in any way be constrained by political and diplomatic rigidity, Sadruddin says. It is vital for the task force, which expects to co-operate with governments, UN agencies, and private voluntary organisations, to speak with "one voice" and with "one battle plan."

Accompanied by representatives from UN and other aid agencies, Sadruddin visited the region on a five-day, fact-finding tour at the end of May. In Pakistan, he met with government officials, Afghan refugee and resistance leaders, as well as private aid co-ordinators.

Sadruddin, UN High Commissioner for Refugees from 1963 to 1977, was named head of the international task force on May 11. The task force is primarily responsible for helping repatriate up to 8 million refugees and internally displaced Afghans. Its mandate also covers long-term development for Afghanistan which has been devastated in areas by more than nine years of war. A UN appeal

initially calls for \$1.5 billion to \$2 billion worth of aid.

Sadruddin, whose appointment is for one year, says he hopes the Soviets can be persuaded to contribute. The Afghan resistance, which has been fighting the Soviet occupation since December 1979, would probably not accept direct bilateral Soviet aid, he observes. But contributions on a multinational basis would make the aid more palatable. Many Afghans feel the Soviet Union should pay reparations.

Sadruddin emphasizes that Afghanistan's unique geography and mosaic of ethnic groups makes it difficult to accurately assess its real needs.

Adequate preparation is needed, he says, to create conditions of confidence in regions with good security so that they will act as magnets to draw refugees and displaced people back. "It would be disastrous, if, for instance, a large number of people went back and they had no food, no crops, because the land has been lying fallow." Some basic requirements range from hand tools, draught

animals, and seeds to repairing of irrigation systems and homes, and improving the communications infrastructure.

Sadruddin also stresses that the task force should not seek to do everything itself. All too often, he noted, the foreign aid community underestimates the ability of people to cope with their own problems. The UN "obviously has to plug the gaps here and there, and we have the resources to do that. But I think that we have to rely essentially on the Afghans."

One particularly hazardous problem, he says, is the presence of mines. According to Western military analysts, between 3 million and 5 million mines may have been scattered in fields or planted along roads as part of government efforts to hinder resistance movements.

The UN task force, Sadruddin says, will probably have to call on international specialists to help clear the minefields "in conjunction with guerrilla commanders who know their areas."

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

Top scientists say Soviet science weak

By Paul Recer

WASHINGTON, (AP): A bureaucracy led by "comically obtuse leaders" with little understanding of science has stifled Soviet research for decades and left scientists there weak and unproductive, a leading Soviet scientist says in an article published in a US journal.

Ronald Z. Sagdeev, director of the Soviet Space Research Institute and a member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, said the Soviet style of government has handicapped science research, but there have been efforts to hide its inadequacies behind showpiece examples of success.

"To a great extent, science is a product of the social conditions in which it develops," Sagdeev wrote in the quarterly journal *Science and Tech-*

nology. "During the past half century, Soviet science has suffered deep, and still bleeding, wounds from ill-conceived government policies."

Sagdeev says the Soviets can be "justly proud" of contributions to the study of the laser, the launching of Sputnik and of subsequent achievements in space.

Failed But he said science has failed to strengthen industrial productivity because "we have not faced up to the real problem: Soviet fundamental science is too weak to contribute much to practical applications."

"The shortcomings in Soviet science are apparent from the subatomic world of physics to the boundless world of astronomy," he said, adding that Soviet scientists have contributed little or nothing to the recent new dis-

coveries in atomic physics, in astronomy or in biology.

"Exaggerated claims have been made for the achievements of Soviet science," Sagdeev said. "Science has its own criteria for success, however, and Soviet achievements have not measured up to them."

He said that since World War II, Soviet attempts at major science projects have been increasingly dragged down by bureaucratic machinery that stifles rather than encourages original research.

Barriers Department barriers, he said, keep laboratory researchers from communicating with students, thus handicapping the Soviet production of new scientists. Bureaucrats attempted to

apply central production planning techniques to science research, Sagdeev said, often with ludicrous results.

"In the 1960s, scientists even had to promise to achieve a specific amount of progress within a designated period," he said.

While scientists, he said, saw this as nonsense, "political leaders can be comically obtuse." Sagdeev said bureaucrats find security in basing their planning on the "status quo" and new ideas are discouraged. "French, German and American science is vibrant with new ideas, while Soviet science is stultifying," he said.

As another example, Sagdeev said few Soviet scientists have access to computers, while scientists in other countries use them routinely.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1654 — Anglo-Portuguese treaty placing Portugal under English control is signed.
- 1866 — Italian fleet is destroyed by Austrians off Lissa, Italy.
- 1877 — Russian forces suffer first reverses in war with Turkey.
- 1903 — Morocco grants France control of frontier police.
- 1913 — Turkey recaptures Adrianople from Bulgaria.
- 1922 — League of Nations Council approves mandates for Togoland, Cameroon and Tanganyika.
- 1945 — US flag is raised over Berlin as US troops prepare to take part in occupation government after World War II.
- 1947 — Dutch troops launch new offensive in Java against Indonesian forces.
- 1951 — Jordan's King Abdullah is assassinated in Jerusalem.
- 1954 — Armistice for Indochina is signed in Geneva, under which France evacuates North Vietnam; communists evacuate South Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos; and France undertakes to respect independence of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam.
- 1958 — United Arab Republic severs relations with Jordan.
- 1968 — Philippines recalls its envoys from Malaysia because of territorial dispute.
- 1969 — US astronaut Neil A. Armstrong becomes first man to set foot on moon.
- 1974 — Turkey invades Mediterranean island of Cyprus with powerful land, sea and air forces.
- 1976 — US spacecraft Viking I lands on Mars after 11-month flight and begins sending back clear pictures of the planet.
- 1987 — Prime Minister Anibal Cavaleiro Silva's centre-right Social Democrats win Portugal's first parliamentary majority.

Great minds don't think alike

By Kathy Cuddihy

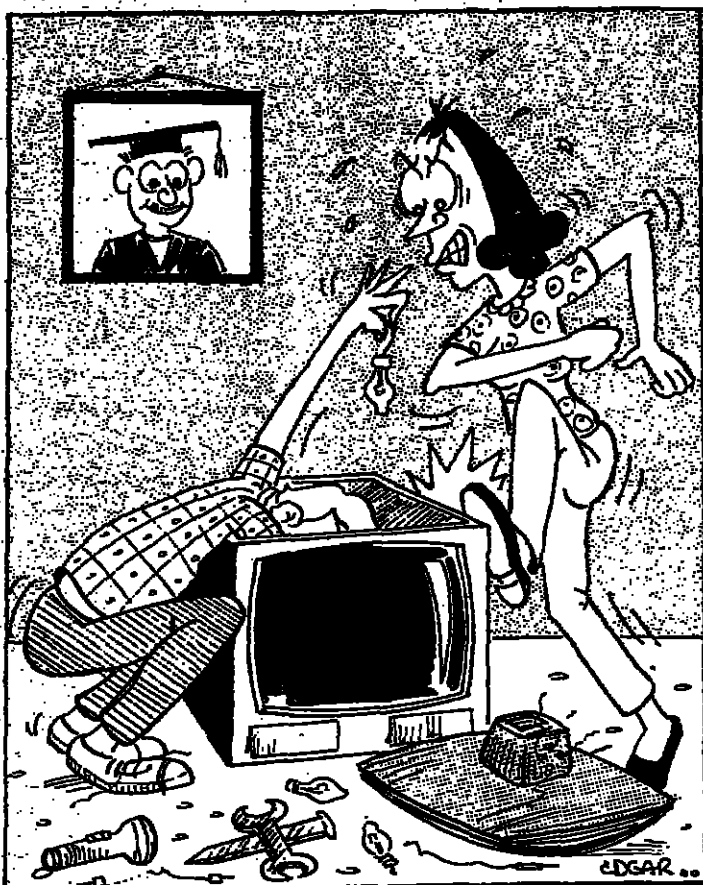
SURELY everyone must have heard the maxim, "Great minds think alike." While there is no doubt a great deal of truth to the statement, it is certainly not the last word on the subject. This point is made clear to me every single day because I just happen to be married to a Great Mind. Coincidentally, my spouse can make the same claim.

My husband's Great Mind leans towards technical/mathematical brilliance, while mine is more artistically oriented. To him, problems of function present an interesting challenge: when a piece of machinery breaks down, himself immediately assumes there has to be a logical reason. He patiently proceeds to discover the cause and then calmly arrives at a logical solution.

To my (great) mind, there is absolutely no excuse for mechanical failure; it is pure caprice on the part of smartalek appliances trying to assert their wretched indispensability. To remedy the situation, I resort to a well-placed thump or kick (aimed at the defaulting equipment, not himself). If that doesn't work, then I imitate the machine and have a quiet break-down myself.

If being a keen and able Mr. Fix-It of obscure complications weren't already enough of an achievement, my husband's Great Mind also looks upon higher mathematics as an amusing entertainment. I'm a whiz at adding up columns of numbers in my head, but any other sort of arithmetic exercise signals the lowering of a curtain around my beleaguered brain cells.

In an uncharacteristically unchivalrous moments, himself delights in getting into bed at night and ... tor-



menting me with excerpts from his bedside book of mathematical brain teasers. "This one's simple, Kathy. Even you should be able to figure it out." Thanks. Despite my loud protests, he forges ahead with his "simple" conundrums, leaving me mentally numb.

"Why do you do this to me?" I cry in anguish, trying desperately to stop myself from pulling my hair out.

"Darling, it's for your own good. You have to overcome this mental block you have about numbers."

"But I'm happy with my mental block. Truly happy. That's more than a lot of people without a mental block can say."

"Trust me, Kathy. You'll be a lot happier when you don't fear numbers."

"Trust me, dear. I don't fear them now. I just don't relate to them and beyond

what is absolutely necessary I have no inclination to make room in my life for them."

What never ceases to amaze me, though, is that some Great Minds function to capacity only within the scope of their own specialty. This is born out by expressions such as "the absent-minded professor."

In other words, just because someone might be clever enough to understand the theory of relativity, it doesn't mean he can find his socks in the morning ... when they're staring him right in the face. Nor does it mean he can follow simple directions.

"Scissors? You'll find them in the top left-hand drawer of the desk, dear."

When it is discovered that the Great Mind is still searching 15 minutes later, the casual observer feels

duty-bound to offer assistance.

"What seems to be the problem?"

"The problem is that I can't find the scissors. They aren't where they're supposed to be."

"And just where are they supposed to be?"

"In the desk drawer. That's what you said."

"I believe I specified the top, left-hand drawer."

As the casual observer casually opens the top, left-hand drawer, the Great Mind lets out a barely audible gasp and sheepishly picks up the scissors. Such oversights are an ongoing source of wonder to my own Great Mind and I am forced to question the likelihood of survival of certain Great Minds without an active support system.

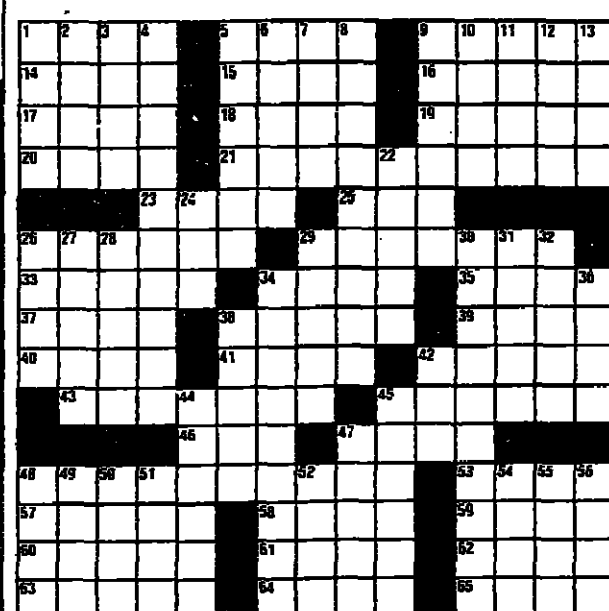
An interesting contrast between artistically-oriented Great Minds and scientific/technical ones is that the arty types concern themselves with physical and sensual details — the smell of fresh flowers, the glint of sunlight on water — while the "other" types take their pleasure in the more abstract aspects of life, such as theories and what-ifs. Some of them wouldn't notice an aesthetic detail if it came up and hit them on the head.

Unless they are both on the same wave length at the same time, it is quite safe to say that Great Minds most definitely do not think alike. On the other hand, Great Minds with different leanings tend to complement each other nicely, although periodic lapses in one may be frustrating for the other.

Besides, it wouldn't do for Great Minds to be too similar. After all, the snappy reply to the maxim "Great Minds think alike" is "Fools seldom differ."

And that would be too much of an admission....

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Come up against
 - Better's concern
 - Kind of sole
 - Munch
 - Street sound
 - Skip over
 - Place for baby
 - Emulate
 - Petruchio
 - Paris, to Romeo
 - Difficult
 - 1935 Hepburn film
 - Blue-pencil
 - Corn or pod
 - lead-in
 - Assignment
 - Peer's domain
 - Of a piece
 - Belgian export
 - Iranian coin
 - Craggy hills
 - Intended
 - "I cannot tell"
 - Sword with a blunted edge
 - Word with shoppes
 - Rocket stage
 - Designate
 - Dotted on
 - Galway —
 - Privy to
 - 1981 Hepburn film, with "On"
 - Parlor piece
 - Thunderous
 - Sharif
 - Dash
 - Nickname for Theresa
 - Ache
 - Macabre
- DOWN**
- Egyptian cross
 - Word with fide
 - Unscrupulous person
 - 1957 Hepburn film
 - Preval
 - Handled
 - Actress Moore
 - Something to behold
 - Throw off the track
 - Malodorous
 - voice
 - Dutch treat
 - Electrical units
 - Went astray
 - Female rabbit
 - Recent
 - Emulate Romeo and Juliet
 - Lorelei
 - Cologne
 - 1944 Hepburn film
 - Merchant ship
 - Ship to remember
 - Treats for tots
 - Wield a baton
 - Wagnerian god
 - Brouhaha
 - Debussy work
 - Princely name
 - Silly
 - Arena receipts
 - Turgenev's birthplace
 - Knowledge
 - Mend socks
 - Forget
 - Table spread
 - Jamie of TV
 - Author Seton

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

OMIT STOP FLAME
LACE HYPE RAPID
AMER ARAI EMILE
VASE VOLLEYBALL
KNEEL MAD
BRACER CAB AHM
EATER SORE SOLO
AMI ALDER RIO
KING LEAD PESOS
SEGO IDS DELETE
LAB AEDS
SURFRIDING CHAP
OSTER EVER TONI
LIBRA LANE BEAM
SAISSY ANTE ASTA

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

PLAY THE CARD YOU'RE KNOWN TO HAVE

North-South vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ 8 5 4
♥ A 9 3
♦ A K Q 7
♣ J 5 2

EAST
♠ J 3
♥ J 8 5
♦ 9 4 2
♣ A K 9 8 6

SOUTH
♠ A Q 9 7 6 2
♥ 2
♦ 6 3
♣ Q 10 7 3

The bidding:
East Pass South 2 ♠ North Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♠
Sometimes you are marked with a certain card, either by the bidding or the play. In that event, it often pays to play that card at the first opportunity. It could yield surprising results.

East-West were using weak two-bids. Once South heard that neither East nor West had an opening bid, he knew he was going to find some useful cards in his partner's hand,

so his three-spade bid carried little risk. North was delighted at the turn of events, and raised to game.

West elected to lead his singleton club. East cashed the king-ace and continued with a third round. Had West ruffed low, it would have been the third and last trick for the defense, assuming declarer was a skilled card reader. Since East did not open the bidding and had only made a single raise of his partner's hearts, it was highly unlikely that he held the king of spades in addition to the ace-king of clubs he had already shown. Therefore, as soon as declarer gained the lead he would have banded out the ace of spades, and that would have ended matters.

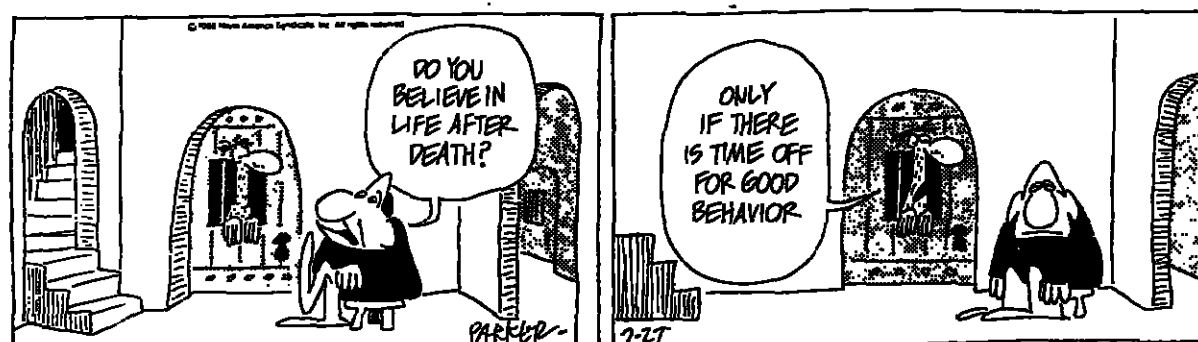
Fortunately, West was wise to the inferences declarer might draw from the auction. Instead of ruffing the third club with the ten, he ruffed with the king, the card he almost surely had to have! Now declarer had a choice of lines.

West exited with the king of hearts. Declarer won in dummy and, thinking that East held the remaining three trumps, he led a low trump from dummy and finessed the six when East followed with the trey. A happy West gathered in his ten for a one-trick set.



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)
You will find it hard to maintain harmony with your partner but you should go all out to do so. You should try not to be too extreme in your reactions. Do not allow yourself to get flustered.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)
You should be more prepared to face the truth about yourself and about your situation. You should not let yourself be intimidated. Do all you can — that is needed to maintain harmony with your partner. Be considerate.

Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)
The Moon's more favourable influence will help you to make the best of the situation you are in. Do not give up your efforts to learn something that is proving more difficult than first seemed.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
You will not be quite as sure of yourself as you would wish to be. There will be some conflicts and tensions with those close to you. You should allow yourself to be guided by common sense.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)
You will find it easier to say what you mean. Beware of spending as though there were no tomorrow or day after. Jupiter's influence will make it easier for you to find the right solution. Be more tolerant.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)
This is a good day on which to make a few changes you have been contemplating. You should not do anything that might aggravate someone with whom you wish to stay on good terms. Avoid being reckless when cycling or driving.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)
You will be able to look more on the bright side but you should avoid being smug. A good idea will help you to achieve your objectives more easily. Do not ask for more than you are prepared to render in return. Be considerate.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
You should avoid making a personal issue out of something that is of no really great importance. A friend will need your support and will appreciate your giving it to him.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)
You should keep your objectives more clearly in mind. You should not allow others to outwit you. Make sure you do not harbour any ideas that are obviously impracticable. Be objective.

Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)
Today you must watch out for hidden snags more than usually. You will tend to be too easily satisfied. You should avoid holding someone else responsible for what you know is really your own fault. Be consistent.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
You should concentrate on what is important leaving things of a secondary nature until later. A good opportunity will pass you by if you do not act swiftly. Do not rely too much on gadgets.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)
You should concentrate on what is important leaving things of a secondary nature until later. A good opportunity will pass you by if you do not act swiftly. Do not rely too much on gadgets.

Care Bears in feminist nightmare

By Colin Randall

CARE BEARS and My Little Pony toys, whose gentle qualities command the affections of millions of children, have emerged as betes noires of the campaign against sexism and racism. Comics and cartoons are condemned too.

Superman, Wonderwoman, Masters of the Universe, Gobots and Transformers are among characters which should arouse the suspicions of concerned parents, says The National Committee on Racism in Children's Books.

Far from offering harmless fantasy, they are seen as symbols of white male domination contributing to a nightmare for feminists while giving white children false notions of racial superiority and reinforcing the low self-esteem of black youngsters.

A recent issue of "Dragon's Teeth", the committee's quarterly magazine, claims that sexism, racism and violence are the staple diet of comics. In various articles, posters, figures of children's toys, comics and telev-

ision cartoons are analysed for supporting evidence.

The committee complains in an editorial that television programmes, mostly imported from the United States, have spawned a seemingly unending series of comics, toys, books and videos which are turning many toy shops into "a bizarre combination of fairy's grotto and military arsenal."

Despite the debate about television violence which followed the Hungerford shootings, the magazine suggests, business will continue to churn out children's products which "glamorise and promote violence."

Imperialistic
One article, reprinted from Marxism Today, argues that such programmes as Transformers and Gobots are barely concealed promotions "for boys' toys."

The author, Rosalind Coward, adds: "Watching the adverts between children's programmes is like entering a feminist nightmare where boys build up grotesque arsenals and girls endlessly comb the

pastel mane of My Little Pony."

Miss Coward says that earlier treatment of violence in Popeye or Tom and Jerry cartoons, where dogs and cats regularly "fall into a million pieces only to revive again", has given way to "an altogether more gendered and imperialistic phase."

Another writer Ruth Grindrod identified "unmistakable" racist imagery and overtones in American cartoons, including He-Man, She-Ra, Thundercats and Ulysses 21. "The heroes and heroines and the defenders of the good are white. They boast blonde hair, blue eyes and sun-tanned faces."

"The female characters are usually scantily-clad, with wasp-like waists, which perpetuates an image of beauty that is most definitely white and European."

But baddies, she writes, are "nearly always shrouded in darkness" and dressed in black or grey. Although not always black, they are "never depicted as white."

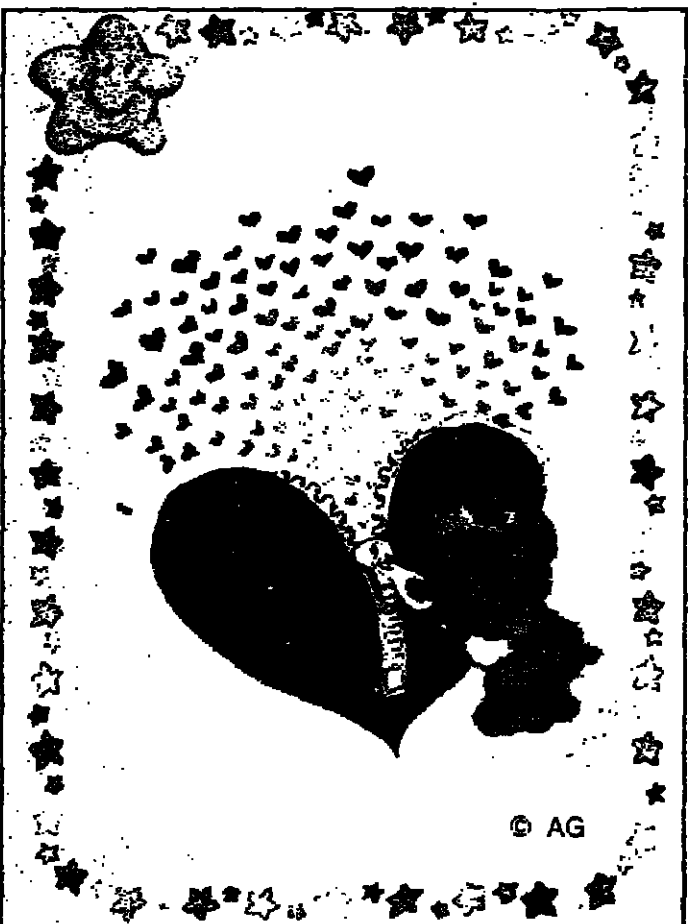
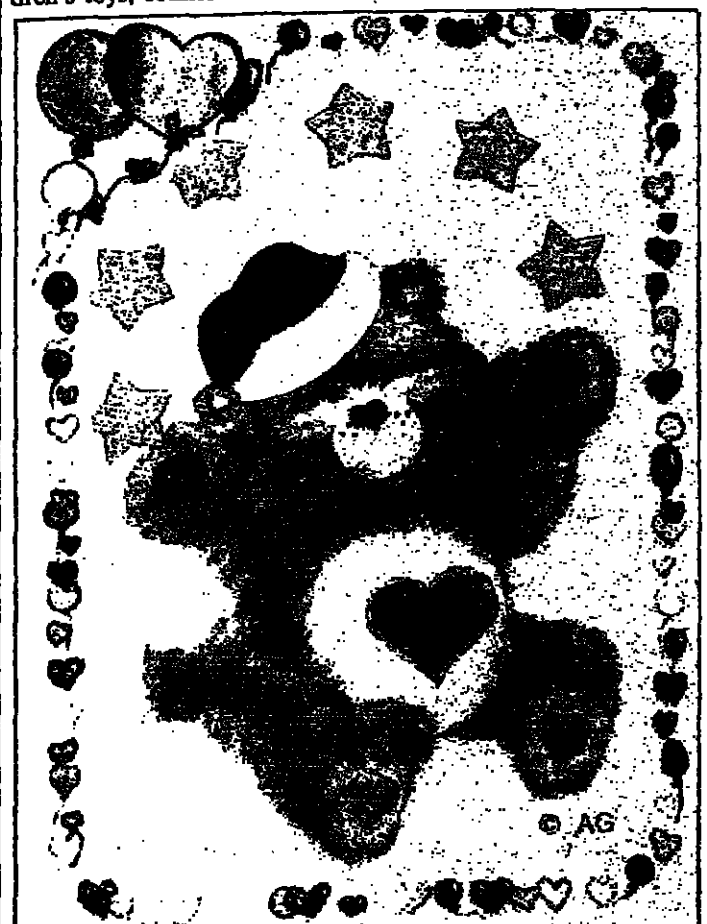
Speaking from the commit-

tee's office in Ladbroke Grove, its general-secretary, Mr Pascoe Sawyers, said yesterday that children's comics and cartoons portrayed, to varying degrees, girls as sentimental and boys in "macho" roles.

He said: "We are not necessarily saying they are not harmless. The point we are trying to make is that the effect is cumulative. These publications all portray boys and girls in certain ways and the degree varies from hard racism and sexism to lesser racism and sexism."

Jenny O'Connor, managing editor of Marvel UK, whose children's comics include Care Bears and Transformers, said: "We don't live in a perfect world. I wish we did but, at the end of the day, we are in business and give our audience what they want."

She felt strongly about sexism and racism and always tried to ensure that nothing "overtly sexist or racist" went into the magazines, although many of the titles were published on licence, limiting Marvel's editorial control.



Care Bears, whose gentle qualities command the affections of millions of children, have emerged as betes noires of the campaign against sexism and racism.

This is the final part of a series on biotechnology. The first and second parts appeared on July 11 and 12.

By Robert C. Cowen

BOSTON: It's an unforgettable image. Julianne Lindemann of Advanced Genetic Sciences, enveloped in "moon suit" protective clothing, is spraying genetically altered bacteria on strawberry plants. In the background, news reporters and other onlookers happily down coffee and doughnuts. They seem unconcerned about possible contamination by the microbe that, according to some stories filed that day, was a potential environmental menace.

Thus began the field test of so-called ice-minus bacteria. This is a strain of the common field bacterium *Pseudomonas syringae*, with a gene removed so the microbe no longer promotes frost on plants. The bacteria were released in Brentwood, Calif., on April 24, 1987, after four years of sometimes bitter court battles, public hearings, and regulatory delays.

As the first planned release of a genetically engineered organism proposed in the United States, the ice-minus test has

become a classic case study. Experimenters and critics alike refer to it when they consider the safety of allowing products of the genetic engineer increasingly to enter our environment.

"That experiment was probably the most highly publicized single experiment in the history of biological science," says Arthur Kelman, a University of Wisconsin bacteriologist. "And yet," he adds, "on the basis of what we knew about that organism, it probably was one of the safest first experiments that have ever been done."

For biologists such as Professor Kelman, the "moon suit" photograph symbolises both what is rational and what is ridiculous in the field-test safety debate. Scientists felt at the time that only exaggerated fear lay behind the California Department of Health Services order for Dr Lindemann to wear protective gear. Lindemann's colleague Trevor Suslow wore only a standard dust mask

when he applied the bacteria a second time last December. Yet many experts also believe that the extensive environmental studies and highly visible caution which marked the ice-minus experiment were justified in terms of public responsibility. They provided knowledge to help allay concern about this widely misunderstood experiment. Future experiments of comparable safety will probably require much less scrutiny.

The Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) emphasises this in its recent report to the Congress on field testing gene tailored organisms. Noting that some two dozen such trials have already been held in five countries, it points out that the pace of field testing is accelerating.

More than 300 companies in the United States — let alone universities and government laboratories — are developing genetically engineered products. The eventual applications for field tests

would overwhelm government regulators if they tried to consider every case as intensively as they did the ice-minus experiment. OTA suggests that Congress consider a system to regulate field tests according to their degree of risk.

The National Academy of Sciences urged a similar strategy last September. Dr Kelman, who chaired the academy's study committee, says that this strategy reflects general scientific opinion. At the American Association for the Advancement of Science annual meeting in February, he told the press:

"Even though there appears to be a debate, ... actually the areas of agreement are greater than one might expect. And so if one were to ask even those people who have expressed the deepest concern whether they would agree with the statement that most introductions into the environment represent relatively low risk or no significant risk, I think that you would find there is a consensus

on that. You would also find there is a consensus that there may be problems and that these problems have to be recognized."

To tackle the problems of assessing environmental risks, both the Kelman committee and the OTA distinguish between tests that are inherently safe and those that are inherently risky. They urge regulators to reserve detailed scrutiny for the latter. Field tests in which small change is made in a known harmless organism, such as a crop plant, which is then put back into its usual environment, need less regulation than does the release of organisms that might become new weeds or pathogens, they say.

Kelman explains: "Weeds differ from crop plants and pathogens from nonpathogens in a large number of traits. Most weeds grow vigorously, produce large numbers of seeds, germinate readily, and spread over wide areas. Most pathogens have the ability to invade plants or animals, resist defense systems of the organ-

isms they invade, form toxic chemicals that injure or kill cells, reproduce and spread ... rapidly and invade new organisms. They can also survive under adverse conditions in the environment."

"Each of these traits is expressed through several genes or clusters of genes. The transfer of a few individual genes unrelated to characteristics contributing to weedlike attributes or pathogenicity, therefore, are not likely to turn a crop plant into a weed or a harmless micro-organism into a pathogen."

To make the point, he notes: "If I have a petunia and I transfer a gene for a different colour out of a bacterium, that's a big jump from a bacterium to a petunia. ... (But) it's still a petunia. ... It's not going to become a killer petunia."

Even though scientists can rank field tests according to risk, all tests will need at least some regulation. Scientists still don't know enough to say some categories of tests are so safe they need no supervision at all. While acknowledging that

most projects that can be done today do seem safe, a University of Minnesota biologist, Philip Regal, told a February meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science: "I have yet to see any genetic engineering textbook that deals with safety when it comes to the organisms that are to be released in nature. Maybe it's best they don't. We have a way to go before that chapter could be written responsibly."

Meanwhile, some research is under way to gain the basic knowledge that, one day, could lead to standardised tests for ecological safety.

For example, Clemson University, in partnership with the Monsanto Company, is field-testing a soil bacterium — *Pseudomonas fluorescens* — that has two added genes to help in tracking the microbe. These genes enable the bacterium to "eat" lactose, something the wild form can't do. This helps distinguish the designer bacterium in analysing soil samples. Ellis Kline and Horace Skipper are testing this

tracking system, which Monsanto scientists David J. Drahoe, Gerard Barry, and Bruce Hemming developed. Their test began at Clemson's field station near Edisto, S.C., last November. If successful, the 18-month trial should give ecologists a useful tool for monitoring bacterial releases.

Dr Regal sees progress in building the knowledge base. He explains: "We have been thinking beyond the ice-minus bacteria in California. It is silly to get people concerned about things like that. Dozens of scientists have spent thousands of hours working on more important issues. NSF (the National Science Foundation) and EPA (the Environmental Protection Agency) have awarded millions of dollars for research in an attempt to get some background information. ... Gradually, we are getting molecular biologists and ecologists to work together."

"We're at a point now where things will develop," says Kelman. "There are permits being issued. There are organisms now out in the field. The Monsanto experiment in South Carolina is in progress. ... It's slow. It's agonisingly slow. ... But I'm optimistic that it (the safety issue) will be resolved."

1988, The Christian Science Monitor News Service



Animal patenting touches raw nerve

By Curtis J. Sitomer

BOSTON: In late April, a panel of ethicists, environmentalists, and theologians representing Protestant and Jewish groups asked for a moratorium on the patenting of genetically altered animals. These churchpeople and scholars called animal patenting "a matter of deep philosophical and spiritual concern." But their focus on patenting is the outgrowth of even more basic concerns about biotechnology.

Most scientists say that the search for better animal breeds is as old as agriculture itself. Critics, however, point out that biotechnology allows us to alter the breeds faster and to interchange genes between species.

A position statement emanating from a Virginia symposium said that the United States Patent Office's decision to grant a patent for genetically altered mice "portends fundamental changes in the public's perception of, and attitudes toward, animals." Genetically engineered animals "would be regarded as human creations, inventions, and commodities rather than as God's creation or subjects of nature."

If plant genetics has caused controversy, the genetic manipulation of animals is raising even broader ethical issues.

As early as last June, Michael Fox, scientific director of the Humane Society of the United States, called it "very frightening" to treat animals as "simply

assemblies of genes" that can be manipulated at will by humans.

Dr Fox stressed that the inherent nature of animals needs to be respected. He had no similar ethical reservations about plants.

Jeremy Rifkin, president of the Foundation on Economic Trends and an outspoken critic of genetic engineering, says that the patenting of animals "touches a raw nerve." He explains that "it gives people a sense that we're talking about reducing life to the status of a manufactured commodity, indistinguishable from other commercial products."

And Tom Regan, president of the North Carolina-based Culture and Animals Foundation, puts it even more dramatically. In a letter to the Washington Post, he says: "Future generations will look back and shake their heads in disbelief of the government's support of this unprecedented attack upon the integrity of life. Here, for the first time, people are being granted property rights over the life of sentient creatures who are being intentionally engineered to ensure their pain, deprivation, stress, and untimely death."

Mr Regan strongly urges Congress to impose a moratorium on the patenting of genetically altered higher life forms.

The Rev. Wesley Granberg-Michaelson, head of Montana's New Creation Institute, also wants a hiatus on the gran-

ting of such patents. But Mr Granberg-Michaelson has added this does not mean all ethicists and theologians oppose all applications of biotechnology or its potential use in medical research.

He has explained that "extending the patenting process to higher life forms, including human genetic characteristics, will give a powerful economic incentive to assumptions which view life solely as if it were a material human invention."

"The result is an arrogant and mechanised view of the created order which is religiously and ethically ignorant and poses a profound threat to the integrity of the creation."

The World Council of Churches, which is sponsoring a theological study on the "integrity of creation," has warned against the "consumerist and anthropomorphic world view which degrades both matter and the extra-human species."

The World Council points out that Christian theology, based on Christ Jesus' love for the world, requires human beings to "embrace the whole creation with compassion."

Many worry that animal patenting will ultimately lead to experimentation with humans.

This is a major concern of the Boston-based Committee for Responsible Genetics. Nachama Wilker, the committee's director, says that a 1980

US Supreme Court ruling may have opened the door to the patenting of human genes. She refers to the case *Diamond v. Chakrabarty*, which allowed the first patent for a living organism.

Ms Wilker also stresses that there will be a great many legal and moral questions springing from patenting of animals — including ownership rights and genetically produced offspring.

Clifford Grobstein, professor emeritus of biological science and public policy at the University of California, San Diego, examines the moral values involved in a recent column.

"We may already be on a slippery slope," Professor Grobstein writes. "If we were ready to patent bacteria, why not mice? If mice, why not dolphins, why not whales? If whales, why not gorillas? If gorillas, why not people?"

"What clearly emerges is that the issue isn't mice, it is our own moral sense: What, in our own values, is bigger and more significant about living things than either patents or bucks?" He says we will face this question in respect to mice, dolphins, and eventually ourselves.

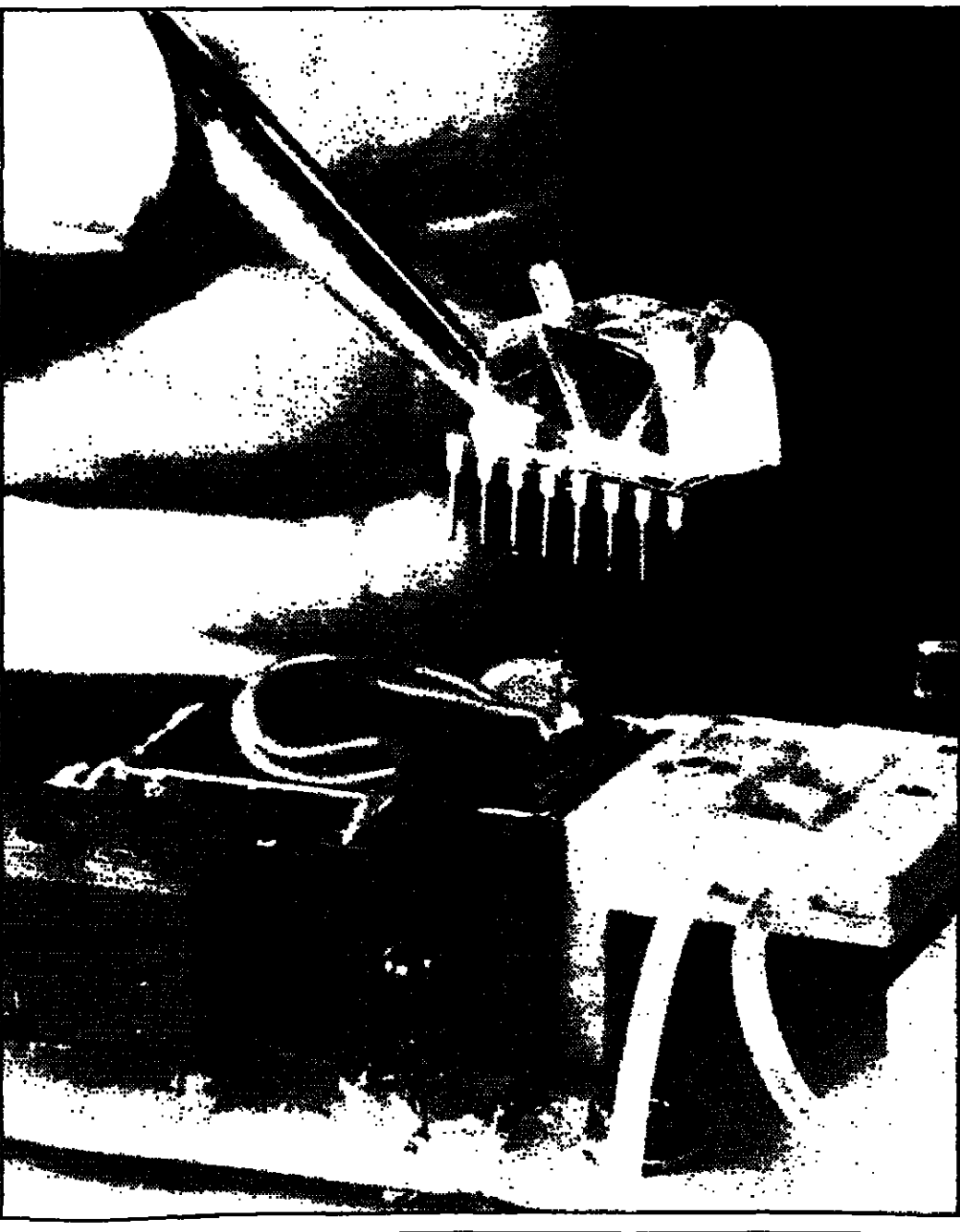
"Patenting is sociological manipulation, and it is its complex underlying rationale are spreading," he says. "Either kind of manipulation can be either beneficial or dangerous," he concludes. 1988, The Christian Science Monitor News Service

British scientists develop life-saving silicon chip

THIS tiny flow-through assembly could be the difference between a life saved and one lost, for it contains a silicon chip that can detect ions in blood. When a small amount of blood is passed through it continuously from a patient's arm during a major surgical operation electrical signals are produced that are then transmitted to a micro-computer and displayed on a monitor. An anaesthetist has an immediate visual analysis of the patient's blood — replacing the lengthy traditional method of taking a blood sample for analysis — a factor of major importance when the potassium level is critical and sudden changes can lead to death.

The assembly was developed by Professor Arthur Covington of Newcastle University's Chair of Electro-analytical Chemistry and his research group in collaboration with Dr Alistair Sibbald (now with Thorn-EMI) and Dr Ron Carter of the Department of Anaesthetics at the Freeman Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne. Each silicon chip is also sensitive to calcium, hydrogen, and sodium ions simultaneously.

Work is in progress to improve the sensitivity of the detection and to investigate the application of similar devices to a wider range of chemical analysis, such as the detection of nitrates in river water.



Double vision television trouble

By Jeremy Gerard

NEW YORK — The particle physicist, the cosmetic surgeon, and the consumer electronics entrepreneur each imagine something beyond the probable — the quark, the perfect nose, the power to watch two different broadcasts on the same television screen at the same time — and then set out to prove its existence, if not its purpose.

For Rabbit Systems Inc., a young California electronics company that meant creating a product called the Double Play. It allows anyone with a video cassette recorder to view a second channel on the television screen. The "picture-in-picture" one-eighth the screen's size, can be moved to any corner and toward the centre; it can be frozen, and it can be exchanged — "swapped" — with the larger picture.

"The ability to watch two idiot boxes at the same time — it's the end of Western civilisation as we know it," said Alan C. Neubauer, a consultant at

Rabbit Systems Inc., a young California electronics company has created a product called the Double Play. It allows anyone with a video cassette recorder to view a second channel on the television screen.

Rabson's Stereo Video Warehouse here.

Picture-in-picture technology is now built into several of the most expensive digital televisions and VCRs. But Rabbit, which has been selling gadgets to add on to gadgets for three years, and its main competitor, Multivision Inc. of Santa Valley, California, found that plenty of people with old television sets would pay \$200 to \$500 to be able to watch two programmes at once.

George Hoefler, executive vice-president of Rabbit, said the Santa Monica company had sold out its first run of Double Plays, 30,000 units. He expects to sell 200,000 more in the first year of nationwide dis-

tribution.

"The most passionate purchaser of the product is the sports fan," he said. "If you have ever spent an afternoon channel-hopping, you'll understand."

Hoefler would have been dismayed by the reaction of one professional fan, Michael Francesca, an announcer on All-Sports Radio Station here who got a Double Play for Christmas. He told listeners the product was so terrible that he had returned it.

Viewers like Francesca are finding the Double Play's picture-in-picture too small and its quality too poor to tell whether anything worth swapping for is happening.

This proved to be the case recently, with the Double Play hooked up to a 17-inch TV and tuned to Wimbledon and the first-ever solar-powered car race. On the picture-in-picture, the car race looked like a convention of gnats, and the tennis ball was invisible.

The next attempt was more disappointing. When a naked weather woman seemed to appear in the smaller picture, that image was quickly "swapped." It turned out to be a weatherman in a tan suit.

"This is a gimmick," said David Lachenbruch, the editorial director of Television Digest, an industry newsletter. "It's a cute feature maybe a real sports nut would use. Frankly, I don't see any value in them at all."

Lachenbruch is not averse to the idea — only exceedingly pragmatic. "For the price you pay for one of them, why not just buy another TV?" he said. "I have a 13-inch television sitting on top of my 26-inch television, and I get sound from both of them."

ANDY CAPP

By Smith



BUSINESS & FINANCE

Nigeria's new refinery plans to export refined products

LAGOS, July 19, (OPECNA): Dr Adeyinka Ola, general manager of the Port Harcourt Refining Company, a subsidiary of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, has said that the products of the new Port Harcourt refinery may be exported.

Ola said in Port Harcourt at the weekend that the refinery had the capacity to process 150,000 barrels per day of crude oil.

Ola disclosed that the company will re-introduce processing fees for the refining of petroleum products for oil companies.

He said that the fees, particularly at the new Port Harcourt refinery, would be internationally competitive to avoid a situation where oil companies would prefer to refine their crude outside the country.

He said that with the expected coming on stream of the new refinery next year, the country might start to export refined petroleum products since projections of the country's energy requirements into the 1990s had shown that supply would outstrip demand.

Challenge

He said that the challenge facing the company was how to meet international standards at minimum cost while being self-sustaining. Adding that some structural changes would have to be made in the new refinery to enable it export products.

Ola explained that these structural changes were necessary because certain facilities which would enable export to take place were not incorporated into the original design of the refinery.

He also said that the lead content of gasoline produced by the new refinery would be much less.

The first Nigerian chief executive of the Port Harcourt refinery, chief Ihekachi Odor, stressed the need to reduce the lead content of fuel to reduce the problems of environmental pollution.

Meanwhile, a senior Nigerian executive has proposed the privatisation of the steel industry to the extent of 60 per cent to 'eliminate bureaucracy and increase the capital base.'

Africa main target in \$120m of EEC aid

BRUSSELS, July 19, (Reuters): The European Economic Community said today it was giving more than \$120 million in grants and loans to the Third World, with African countries getting the major share.

The EEC commission said just under a third of the total would be used to help fight drought and desertification in the arid north-east of Nigeria and boost farm output.

In Uganda, \$16.5 million will help pay for imports of equipment for industry, transport and agriculture and 2.75 million will go towards improving health care and the fight against tuberculosis and AIDS.

Loan

Niger will receive a special loan of \$13.7 million for mining research including gold prospecting, the commission said in a statement.

It said the aid, supplied under the Lomé Convention between the Community and 66 African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) developing countries, also included \$11.3 million for rural development in Togo and \$12.6 million to support economic reform in Senegal.

Fifty service stations to be built in UAE

DUBAI, July 19, (OPECNA): The Emirates Petroleum Products Company (EPCCO) is to build 50 service stations throughout the northern emirates at a cost of \$27.24 million, it was reported here last week.

According to the "Emirates News" of Abu Dhabi, the stations will cover Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm Al Qaiwain, Ras Al Khaima and Fujairah.

The project is the largest undertaken by EPCCO since its establishment in 1980.

Hussain Sultan, EPCCO's managing director, said the average cost of the construction ranged between \$272 and \$871 million.

Stock market will witness great boom: Saadoun

By M.C. Bose

WELL known Kuwaiti economist Jassem Al Saadoun predicted that the new era of peace in the Gulf region would be conducive towards a more vibrant and cohesive OPEC.

Saadoun told the Arab Times that oil prices will pick up and range between \$18 to 22 per barrel for a period of two years. This scenario would be reflected, provided, the present production quotas remain valid, he added.

Saadoun cautioned that if no positive contacts and agreements were achieved between OPEC members within a short period, including agreed quotas to account for the need of reconstruction

projects after the war, a price war could lead to oil prices stabilising around \$15 a barrel.

However, in both cases, the position would be either slightly better or much better, he added.

Funds

An end to the war would witness the return of some national funds from abroad as a result of relaxation of the political situation in the region, the economist said.

However, this will lead to an increase in demand for investment opportunities resulting inflation that could have severe adverse results, he added.

Speaking in general on an end to the Iraq-Iran war he commented that it would be positively reflected on the com-

mercial sector. The activity will be much better if accompanied by more facilities for imports and re-exports.

Services

Contracting services would see greater demand in about six months after implementation of the ceasefire and the demand for contractual services will continue for about 3 to 5 years and will result in an increase in demand for related materials, he added.

With respect to the real estate market, Al Saadoun said that the political relaxation will cause a spiral in the prices of real estate leading to inflation. However, whenever the intensity of inflation increases, the possibility of a drop in real estate prices increases.

On the share market, he said this

would witness a great boom with share prices increasing without limit and all shares would be profitable — irrespective of the position of the companies. This would result in a drop in share prices within a short period when reality sets in.

This, he warned, could lead to another but smaller Manakh crisis.

Decision

Concluding he said, the movement of international currencies after the Iranian decision to ceasefire, is a difficult issue to predict at present. However, he is of the opinion that although the yen and German mark may lose ground as a result of an increase in the price of oil, this trend will be reversed next year as the US dollar will drop with an increase in the yen and mark.

Price talks may be in August, says Lukman

Oil experts expect greater OPEC unity

TOKYO, July 19, (Reuters): A ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war will allow OPEC to renew efforts to control output and to drive prices up to the oil organisation's \$18-a-barrel target, Far East oil experts said today.

Crude oil prices jumped more than \$1 after Iran accepted a United Nations ceasefire resolution that could herald the end of the nearly eight-year-old war, they said.

"Prices could be increased \$1 or 2 more by August 3 on expectations of OPEC co-operation," said Yasuhiko Tashiro, a chief economist for the Idemitsu Kosan Oil Company.

The Mid-East benchmark crude, from Dubai, surged to around \$13.55, up from \$12.55 at Monday's Tokyo close, but still nearly \$4 below its \$17.42 official OPEC price target.

Factors

"The fundamental factors have not changed," said Tashiro. "The supply-demand balance is very bad still and unless OPEC takes concrete action such as reducing production the price will move down again."

An official of the Organisation

of Petroleum Exporting Countries said on Monday a possible meeting of its price monitoring committee was being discussed but no date had been fixed. Tokyo traders said they expected a meeting to be held on August 3.

"If OPEC announces an exact date of a meeting, that will fuel the bullish feeling again — people will expect some constructive agreement," a Japanese refiner said.

Hindrances

Oil analysts said the Arab Gulf states have been driving oil prices down to squeeze Iran's revenues and disrupt its war effort, and that this policy might now change.

"As far as there will be no tension in the Gulf, there will be no immediate intention to dampen the market," said the refiner. "The Gulf countries are more likely to pay attention to purely economic interests. Therefore there's a possibility the next OPEC meeting can come up with an agreement."

However, the analysts said there were still many hindrances to a unified OPEC agreement that could boost prices up to \$18

a barrel.

Iran has consistently rejected allowing Iraq an OPEC production quota equal to its own.

Tashiro said that if this issue was resolved other OPEC problems, which have prevented the organisation reaching constructive agreements at its last several conferences, could be tackled.

Venezuelan Energy Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti said on Monday that the Gulf war had obliged some oil ministers to mediate between Iraq and Iran at OPEC conferences when tension between them ran high.

Consensus

The ministers had been forced to shuttle between the two countries' suites to seek a consensus on oil matters.

A ceasefire could help lower internal tensions within OPEC and increase its capacity to take the decisions that the market requires, he said.

Some traders warned that an end to the war could lead to higher oil output from Iran and Iraq to get revenue to rebuild their economies.

OPEC president Rilwanu

Lukman said today he hoped the group's price committee would discuss falling oil prices in August.

"We hope that the meeting will be sometime in August," Lukman told Reuters. The meeting had not been set for August 3 as rumoured in the oil market, he added.

Consultations

"We still have consultations to be made," Lukman said.

The Nigerian oil minister, in Benin for a meeting of the African Petroleum Producers Association (APPA), said on Monday more work needed to be done before the meeting was convened.

He said today: "I can't call a meeting until I am sure it is suitable for everyone."

The five-member OPEC price committee, which groups Nigeria, Algeria, Indonesia, Venezuela and Saudi Arabia, can call emergency talks of OPEC if prices deviate too far from OPEC's target.

"I've always thought that as soon as there's an announcement of this kind, the market would drop through the floor — it gives them

lots more opportunities to export," said a trader for a major oil company.

But others said a ceasefire would enable Iran and Iraq to channel less money into defence and more into civilian funds without increasing production.

Efforts

"They will gradually be able to rebuild their economies by savings on the war effort. If they rush to produce more oil, it would have a counter-productive effect by pushing prices down," said the refiner.

"The aim of both countries is to increase revenues, not production," said a Japanese trading house trader.

"However we shouldn't be too optimistic about this ceasefire," said the refiner. "The UN has quite a few issues to resolve before they can implement it."

"We have to carefully watch what will happen in Iran, many people do not like the ceasefire," said Tashiro. "A few days will be enough to tell."

UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said on Monday he hoped the ceasefire could take effect in a week or 10 days.

Five-year exploration plan

QUITO, July 19, (OPECNA): By 1991, the year which would mark the end of a five-year exploration plan initiated in 1986, Ecuador will have drilled 52 oil wells representing an investment of \$400 million by foreign oil companies, according to Minister of Energy and Mines Dr Fernando Santos-Alvite.

He told OPECNA yesterday that the foreign companies were operating in Ecuador in co-operation with CEPE, the state oil company, under service contracts.

Several studies have shown that homeowners, offered low-cost deals and interest-free loans by utilities, turn up their noses if the payoff will take more than six months.

Adding to the turnaround in energy use are homeowners who have been wary of making long-term energy-efficiency investments.

Several studies have shown that homeowners, offered low-cost deals and interest-free loans by utilities, turn up their noses if the payoff will take more than six months.

The figures seemed to confirm private economists' suspicions that, although the housing industry was slowing down, the steep decline in May was an aberration and not the forerunner of a protracted slump.

The increase, which was the largest since February when starts rose 9.9 per cent, followed a revised May drop of 12.6 per cent to an annual rate of 1.384,000. The department previously said May starts fell 12.2 per cent.

Wall Street had expected housing starts to rebound to an annual rate of around 1.47 million in June, in line with the average of the preceding six months.

Drop

Builders broke ground for 1.62 million homes in 1987, the lowest number since 1982, and most economists predict a further drop this year, to between 1.45 million and 1.50 million.

Rising mortgage rates, higher home prices, the impact of tax changes implemented last year and a natural softening of pent-up demand after five years of solid economic growth are all taking a toll on the industry, economists said.

The government said building permits, a barometer of future construction, were issued at an annual rate of 1.489,000 in June, up 3.7 per cent from May. Permits dipped 0.9 per cent in May.

Gasoline prices rise

Momentum for energy efficiency has stopped

WASHINGTON, July 19, (AP): After years of steady efficiency gains motivated by the oil shocks of the 1970s, the momentum for smaller cars, thicker insulation and other energy-saving developments in the United States appears to have run out.

In fact, government experts see a reversal this year in the economy's recent declining energy consumption.

The Energy Department's semi-annual Energy Information Administration recently revised upward its estimate of British thermal units used per dollar of gross national product last year. The estimate went from 19,900 to 20,000 BTU, the same as in 1986, said Information Administration economist Jerry

Lagace

The estimate for the first three months of 1988 is for an increase "so large I don't believe it," Lagace said, although he added, "this will probably be revised downward."

Efficient

The United States began becoming more energy efficient in the mid-1970s, after a 1973 oil embargo by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries showed how dependent Americans were on imported oil. Gasoline prices rose steeply after the first embargo and again after a second oil embargo in 1979.

As a result of the oil shocks, US energy usage declined an average of 2.5 per cent each year after 1976.

Although there are numerous explanations for the reversal in energy efficiency, the simplest is the low oil prices of recent months.

Last year's 94.8 cent average price in the United States for a gallon of unleaded regular gasoline was the lowest ever, after factoring out inflation.

Another possible explanation for the reversal of energy efficiency is the turnaround in US industrial production. According to estimates by the International Energy Agency in Paris, about half of the past gains in US industrial energy efficiency came from the decline of heavy industry in the economy.

But as the operating rates at American factories, mines and

utilities rise, many companies are restarting older, less-efficient equipment or delaying retirement of the equipment. In addition, the recent revival in American exports has been paced by many products that take lots of energy to produce, such as construction equipment.

Use

Adding to the turnaround in energy use are homeowners who have been wary of making long-term energy-efficiency investments.

Several studies have shown that homeowners, offered low-cost deals and interest-free loans by utilities, turn up their noses if the payoff will take more than six months.

US gas imports seem set to rise

NEW YORK, July 19, (Reuters): Declining US natural gas production and overloaded pipelines for the gas that is being pumped could be good news for countries like Algeria and Indonesia which are eager to export liquefied natural gas (LNG).

Some American gas pipeline companies are planning to reopen imports terminals they metalled in the early 1980s, when plunging US gas prices priced LNG imports off the market.

But now, with domestic production down while pipelines to the northeastern state have insufficient capacity to meet demand in that energy-hungry region, imported LNG is beginning to look attractive.

Even after counting the expense of cooling the gas to liquefy it, transporting it in specialised multi-million dollar tankers and then re-gasifying it, LNG is becoming cost-competitive, said James Coyne, direc-

tor of natural gas services at Data Resources Inc.

"We see LNG as an increasing market force along with our need for supplemental supplies (of natural gas)," Coyne said.

US imports of LNG are expected to rise from zero in 1987 to about 20 billion cubic feet this year, 80 billion cubic feet in 1990 and 185 billion cubic feet in 1995, says Data Resources.

By the year 2000, estimated imports could exceed the historical high of 269 billion cubic feet reached in 1979, Coyne said. LNG sales boomed during the gas shortages of the 1970s.

Robert Kalish, a gas supply analyst at the American Gas Association, said Shell's move into the LNG market would lend credibility to forecasts of LNG's future as a US fuel.

Shell aims to expand its LNG marketing because of its high growth potential in the 1990s, said spokesman Dede Taylor.

At the moment, Shell is only

involved in the exploration and production of natural gas, she said. The company, with an annual natural gas production of 656 billion cubic feet, ranks fourth among major producers in the United States.

Plan

The new direction that Shell Oil is taking may also be linked to a global plan of developing the extensive gas holdings of its parent company Royal Dutch/Shell in Africa and the Middle East, Kalish said.

Distigas, a subsidiary of Cabot Corp., reopened its Boston harbour terminal in late 1986 after a three-year shutdown while Houston-based Panhandle Eastern Corp. recently said it would reactivate its Lake Charles, Louisiana, terminal.

Also contributing to the revival of LNG imports is a new willingness of exporters such as Algeria and Indonesia to link LNG prices to those of US spot natural gas, analysts said.

China's consumer prices jump

BEIJING, July 19, (AP): Consumer prices jumped 19 per cent in the past year, the government announced on Friday, acknowledging the biggest such rise since China introduced market reforms a decade ago.

Zhang Zhongji, a spokesman for the State Statistics Bureau, blamed the economy's inability to satisfy consumer demand for the rise. But he said middlemen who hoard goods and control their distribution also are responsible.

Zhang also told a news conference that grain production,

stagnant for the past two years, is not expected to improve this year.

He said workers in China's 32 major cities, including Beijing, Shanghai and Wuhan, were hardest hit by inflation and that food prices increased the most.

Higher

Prices last month were 19 per cent higher than those of June 1987, he said. But Chinese economists do not consider that the country's inflation rate, which they calculate differently than in the West.

In China, the annual inflation rate is calculated by averaging price increases over 12 months rather than measuring the gap between prices from a given date to the same date 12 months later.

Using this system, Zhang said consumer prices during the first six months of this year were an average of 13 per cent higher than during the first six months of last year. This is what the government considers the inflation rate.

China says inflation was 7.2 per cent last year and 11 per cent in the first quarter of 1988.

World Business Summary

Syrian minister unveils balanced '88 budget

DAMASCUS, July 19, (Reuters): Syria, buoyed by the first signs of economic recovery, has unveiled a 1988 budget which balances income and expenditure and which relies on national resources, the country's finance minister told Reuters today. Khalek Mahayni said in a rare interview that the government had followed a new policy in drafting this year's balanced budget by developing local resources (to raise more revenue), and by rationalising government expenditure. Informed sources told Reuters the Syrian assembly had adopted the draft budget this morning and had submitted it to President Hafez Al-Assad who, would issue it by decree. Mahayni said planned expenditure and revenue in 1988 would each total 51.545 billion Syrian pounds (\$4.58 billion). Economic analysts cautioned that budget income and spending might not actually match by the end of the year if expected revenues failed to reach target. But Mahayni said the government had already brought in more than 50 per cent of the expected revenues as a result of raised income from exports, investment projects and tax collection. Syria's economy recently began to emerge from crisis after cabinet changes led to a clampdown on corruption and a campaign to reform agriculture and to boost the private sector, oil production and exports, diplomats said. Mahayni said projected income included 34.848 billion pounds (\$3.09 billion) current revenue from foreign aid and grants and from income tax.

Revenue from investment was expected to reach 16.697 billion pounds (\$1.48 billion), the minister said. He said spending would include 29.665 billion pounds (\$2.63 billion) in current expenditure to cover debt servicing, salaries and administration, and 21.880 billion pounds (\$1.94 billion) capital investment. Last year's budget expenditure was 42.949 billion pounds (\$3.81 billion), Mahayni said. This included 24.314 billion pounds (\$2.16 billion) current expenditure and 18.635 billion pounds (\$1.65 billion) capital investment. The minister said a government drive to collect revenue in the last two months of 1987 had cut the deficit sharply.

Hungarian leader to seek economic benefits on US trip

BUDAPEST, July 19, (Reuters): New Hungarian leader Karoly Grosz arrives in Chicago today to start a 10-day official visit to the United States during which he will press for better trade and business treatment for his country. The trip, culminating in talks with President Reagan in Washington on July 27, is the first to the United States by a Warsaw pact national leader since Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu went there in 1978. Hungary enjoys "most-favoured-nation" (MFN) status in its trade with the United States, expected to total \$600 million in 1988, but this is reviewed every year. "It is believed in Hungary that it would do good to the companies of both countries if the MFN treatment were not considered annually but granted for a longer period," Hungary's official news agency MTI said on Monday. MTI said Hungary was also seeking preferential customs tariffs normally applied to developing countries but granted to medium-developed Hungary by such advanced Western countries as Japan and Austria. Five Hungarian dissidents said they would stage a hunger strike over passport refusals to coincide with Grosz's US visit. "We have asked for passports repeatedly under the passport law which took effect on January 1," they said in a statement telephoned to Reuters Vienna office from Budapest, accusing the authorities of political discrimination.

Burundi launches new set of economic reforms

BURUNDI is set to implement a programme of economic reforms that will help accelerate growth and increase incomes. IDA is supporting the programme with a credit of SDR 64.9 million (\$90 million), according to World Bank News. The programme extends reforms initiated by the government in 1986 and introduces other reforms to promote the growth of a market-oriented economy. The programme includes measures to boost the private sector, reform public enterprises and increase agricultural productivity. Measures will also be taken to eliminate government controls on the financial sector and address poverty issues related to child nutrition and the role of women in development.

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International Bond Highlights

Frankfurt—The European Investment Bank is issuing a Eurobond of two billion francs totalling 800 mln marks, sole lead manager Deutsche Bank AG said. (RTUW 1406)

Tokyo—Nissan Motor Co Ltd will issue 60 billion yen in a six year convertible bond, and 20 billion in a four year convertible bond, both without collateral, a company spokesman said. (RTWW 0824)

Zurich—Atsugi Nylon Industrial Co Ltd is launching 250 mln Swiss francs of convertible notes due November 30, 1993 with an indicated coupon of 7.2 pct, lead manager Swiss Bank Corp said. (RTXD 0836)

Zurich—Tokyo Electric Power Co Ltd is raising 400 mln Swiss francs through a straight bond and an issue of notes, lead manager Credit Suisse said. (RTTW 1315)

London—Nissan Motor Acceptance Corp, a unit of Nissan Motor Co Ltd, is issuing a 150 mln dir Eurobond due August 15, 1991 paying 9-1/4 pct and priced at 101.10 pct, lead manager Daiwa Europe Ltd said. (RTXS 0807)

Tokyo—Toyota Tsusho Corp, trading arm of Toyota Motor Corp, will issue 20 billion yen in 10-year uncollateralized convertible bonds at par, a company spokesman said. (RTXJ 0839)

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 9-1/2 1/4	10-5/8 1/2	10-15/16 7/8
FFI 4.50/60	5.00/10	5.30/40
PAR 7-3/16 5/16	7-1/8 1/4	7-7/16 9/16
EUR 1-5/8 1-7/8	5-5/8 3-7/8	4-1/4 1/4
BRX 6.80	6-7/8 7-00	7-1/16 3/16
ROM 10 10-1/2	10-7/8 11-3/8	11-1/8 11-5/8
AMS 4-11/16 4-13/16	4-3/4 4-7/8	5-1/16 5-3/16
TOK 3.6250 6875	4.0000 0625	4.0625 1250
ECU 6.62 6.87	7.00 7.12	7.43 7.56

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period	Offered	Bid
1 month	5-1/16	5-1/2
3 months	5-3/4	6-1/16
6 months	5-7/8	6-5/16
1 year	6-1/8	6-9/16

BOMBAY

	PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	61.50	61	62	NICO	595	59	607.0
				GNFC	48.50	47.50	49	MUKAMD	87	86	87.50
ACC	226.50	230	231	GRASH	908	109.50	110	NOCIL	450	445	460
ASTA PAINT	156.25	156.25	160	GSFC	133.50	138	138	ORRAY	30	30	30.50
BAJAJ AUTO	241.25	245	246.25	IND LEVER	69.50	69.50	69	PEICO	29.50	29	30
BAR. RAYON	252	255	257.50	HINDALCO	86.50	87	88	PFIZER	62	62	63
BOM. DYING	109.50	117	117	HINDCOCA	78	80	81.25	PRE. AUTO	31	33.50	32.50
BR. BOND	86.25	85	86	HINDMOTOR	22.75	22.50	22.50	RAYMOND	49	48	49
BSE INDEX	576.64	576.64	580	IND ORG	24.50	27	26.50	RELIANCE	209	214	214.50
CENTURYSPG	880	885	890	INDRAYON	73.50	74	74.50	SIEMENS	70	70	72
COLGATE	212.50	215	215	INDROL	162.50	166.25	168.25	SPIC	49	49.50	53.50
DEEPAKFERT	34	36	37	ITC	45	45	46	STOWILLS	252	255	257.50
EL. HOTEL	49.50	48	50	JKSYNTH	64	64	64.75	TATA PUR	257.50	270	270
ESKAYEF	152.50	118.75	115	L AND T	98	98	99.50	TATACHEM	70.50	71	72
ESSAR	90.50	19.50	20.75	MAHINDRA	58.50	58.50	59.50	TELCO	655	657.50	665
GAR. POLY	80	80.50	81	MASTERSHR	10.50	10.25	10.50	TISCO	790	800	808.75
GE. SHIP	29.50	30	31.12	MATERN PL	49	49	51	VOLTA	292.50	290	295

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
AGG	201.7
ALLIANZ VR	1457.0
BADENWERT	181.5
BASF	255.8
BAYER	292.5
BAYER HYP	339.0
BAYER VER	330.0
BBC	306.0
BHF	406.0
BMW	518.5
COMMERZBK	229.5
CONTI GUMM	256.0
DAIMER BEN	699.1
DEUTSC BIK	468.6
DLW	364.0
DRESNER B	256.0
DT. BABCOCK	169.0
FAZ INDEX	482.80
FELDMUEHLE	264.5
GOLDSCHEIDT	290.0
HARPENER	426.0
HOECHST AG	272.9
HOESCH	142.5
HORTEN	189.0
HUSHEL HLD	417.5
KALST SALZ	160.0
KARLSTADT	422.0
KALPHOF	356.0
KLOECK H	126.0
KLOECK W	0
LINDORF	668.0
LUFTHANSA	148.0
MANNESMANN	193.0
MERCEDES	556.0
METALLALLES	314.0
NIXDORF PF	442.5
NORSK HYD	59.70
PHILIP KCM	595.0
PORSCHE	538.5
PREUSSAG	179.5
PWA	212.5
RHEINMETAL	292.0
RWE	224.5
SALAMANDER	212.0
SCHERING	504.5
SEL	299.8
STERNEN	422.0
THYSEN	144.4
VARTA	288.0
VEBA	249.5
VEW	159.2
VOLKSWAGEN	256.2

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE
C R TUNNEL	15.40
CHUNG K	8.00
CHINA GAS	17.30
CHINA L-P	17.70
CHINA MOTR	22.90
COSMO PROP	4.00
EVERGOLD	.52
FAR EAST C	.82
GEN ORIENT	9.75
H C DEVELOP	677.80
H S INDEX	5.35
HANG SENG	30.00
HANG SENG	0
HAM PAR BR	7.50
HK ELEC CO	8.15
HK KOWALCO	8.10
HK LAND CO	6.20
HK SHAW BK	5.00
HK SHAW HT	6.70
HK TELE CO	9.45
KUTCH WIND	12.70
IND EO PAC	13.20
JARDINE M	9.65
KOWALCO M	11.60
NEW WORLD	2.90
PAUL Y CON	6.85
REALTY DEV	2.25
S H K CO	11.30
S H K PROP	1.90
SINE DARY	2.68
STELLUS HFG	18.60
SVIRE PAC	13.60
T V B CO	4.03
TAT CHEUNG	1.64
TAT CHEUNG	0
WOCK MARI	0
WOCK MARI	0
WORLD INTL	3.63

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST PR. CLSE	NITSUBU CP	1140	1150
AJINOMOTO	2900	2870	NITSUBU EL	950
AKAI ELEC	675	680	NITSUBU HVT	935
AKAI	975	1010	NITSUBU DO	920
ASAHI GAS	1900	1900	NITSUKOSHI	1670
ASAHI OPT	740	735	NITSUMI EL	1150
BANK TOKYO	1540	1550	NICHICOM	1340
BRIDGESTON	1300	1300	NITRON CHNT	821
CANON	1260	1300	NITRO SEC	1900
CASIO COMP	1250	1250	NIP ELEC	2110
CHUKAT MNG	1500	1580	NIP KOKKAN	673
CITIZEN W	840	879	NIP OIL	1080
D-ICHI KAN	2880	2910	NIP STEEL	700
DAI NIP IK	800	810	NIP YUSEN	800
DAI NIP PT	2430	2410	NIS MOTOR	1180
DAI NIP SC	1060	1090	NOMURA SEC	3600
DAI NIP TO	655	680	ORICA CO	902
DAICEL	882	900	OLYMPUS	1100
DAIWA R	1720	1750	PENTA OCN	875
DAIWA SEC	2280	2350	PIONEER	3030
EBARA MFG	940	956	RENOVA	946
EISAI	1910	1930	RICON	1240
FUJITSU	1660	1710	SANKYO	1860
FUJII BANK	2930	2980	SANKYO ELEC	782
FUJII PHOTO	3570	3580	SEIYU ST	2260
FUJISAWA	1730	1760	SEIKUSI PB	1550
FUJITA CP	736	739	SHARP	1200
HITACHI	1730	1780	SHISEIDO	1730
HONDA MOT	1910	1930	SONY	5230
HOYU	1950	2050	SUNITOMO	1090
ITO YOKADO	4100	4110	TAISEI	880
JAP SYN RU	1130	1180	TAISHO HRN	1050
JAPAN AIR	13400	13500	TAJIMA CH	2460
JAPAN MET	627	660	TEIJIEN	805
KAJIMA	1380	1360	TOYO NEW IX	130.57
KANSAI EL	3120	3150	TOKIO HRN	1800
KAO SOAP	1720	1690	TOKYO ELEC	1210
KAWASAKI S	700	750	TOKYO GAS	1130
KAWASAKI H	710	760	TOKYO POMR	5590
KIRIN BEV	1870	1850	TORAY IND	898
KONATSU	804	817	TOSHIBA EL	1050
KUBOTA LTD	730	752	TOTO	1990
KYOCERA	5210	5340	TOYO KKOYU	695
MAKITA EL	1700	1720	TOYOTA MOT	2660
MARUI	3000	2960	YAMAHA	1340
MATSUDA EL	2520	2570	YAMAICHI	1810
MATSUDA EL	0	2660	YAMAMOTO	3660
MEIJI SEIK	940	936	YAMAZAKI	1440

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSE SHARPLY LOWER
TOKYO, July 19, (Reuters) — SHARE PRICES CLOSED SHARPLY LOWER DUE TO INVESTOR NERVOUSNESS ABOUT POSSIBLE HIGHER INFLATION AFTER A RISE IN OIL PRICES ON THE BACK OF IRAQ'S DECISION TO ACCEPT A CEASEFIRE IN THE GULF WAR.

"JAPAN'S TRIPLE MERITS OF LOW INTEREST RATES, A STRONG YEN AND LOW OIL PRICES ARE IN DANGER OF REVERSING," SAID TADAOKI UENARA, DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER AT WAKO SECURITIES.

THE NIKKEI INDEX PLUNGED 513.09 POINTS, OR 1.85 PCT, TO 27,149.33, THIS IS THE BIGGEST FALL THIS YEAR. IT SHED 251.67 POINTS ON MONDAY. FALLS LED RISES BY 5.1 TO ONE IN MODERATE TURNOVER OF 1.2 BILLION SHARES AGAINST 1.1 BILLION.

SECURITIES HOUSE, COMMUNICATIONS, BANK, PHARMACEUTICAL, SHIPBUILDING, ELECTRICAL, RAILWAY/BUS, RUBBER, RETAIL, REAL ESTATE, GAS, TEXTILE AND AUTO SHARES LED THE FALL.

MINING ISSUES WERE THE ONLY ONES TO RISE.

NEWS ON MONDAY THAT IRAQ ACCEPTED A U.N. RESOLUTION FOR A CEASEFIRE TO END ITS EIGHT-YEAR WAR WITH IRAQ BOOSTED OIL PRICES BY OVER 70 CENTS A BARREL AND BY AROUND 10 CENTS A BARREL IN EARLY FEAR OF A RISE IN OIL PRICES.

THE POSSIBILITY OF HIGHER OIL PRICES UNSETTLED INVESTORS HERE, BROKERS SAID. JAPAN IMPORTS ALMOST ALL ITS OIL, WITH ABOUT HALF FROM THE GULF.

OIL PRICES COULD RISE IF IRAQ'S MOVE ENCOURAGES OPEC MEMBERS TO COOPERATE TO CURB OIL PRODUCTION, WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO DO UNTIL NOW, TOKYO BROKERS SAID.

THE HIGHER PRICES OF OIL AND POSSIBLY OTHER COMMODITIES COULD SPARK DOMESTIC INFLATION WHICH WOULD PRESSURE MONETARY AUTHORITIES INTO RAISING INTEREST RATES, BROKERS SAID.

HIGHER INTEREST RATES, A RECENT MARKET FEAR, WOULD LIKELY UNDERMINE THE EQUITIES MARKET AS PEOPLE MOVE THEIR MONEY TO MORE ATTRACTIVE FIXED RATE INSTRUMENTS.

A WEAKER YEN WOULD ALSO BOOST THE PRICE OF COMMODITY IMPORTS AND PUT EXTRA UPWARDS PRESSURE ON INTEREST RATES.

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, JULY 19, (Reuters) — SHARE PRICES FELL FURTHER IN THE AFTERNOON FROM THE WEAK OPENING WHILE SENTIMENT WAS AFFECTED BY THE SHARP FALL IN TOKYO, BROKERS SAID.

THE HANG SENG INDEX ENDED NEAR THE DAY'S LOW AND LOST 33.57, OR 1.24 PCT, TO 2,677.80. THE BROAD-BASED HONG KONG INDEX FELL 21.97 TO 1,770.15.

"THE DROP WAS CAUSED BY UNCERTAINTY ON A FURTHER CLIMB OF WORLD INTEREST RATES RATHER THAN CHANGE OF SENTIMENT," HOWARD GORGES OF SUN HUNG KAI SECURITIES SAID. "TRADERS ARE ANTICIPATING THE MOVE AND HOPE TO GET IT OUT OF THE WAY SOONER RATHER THAN LATER TO ELIMINATE CURRENT UNCERTAINTY."

AMMAN

OPNG	CLSE
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	0.61 0.60
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	0.50 0.50
ARAB BANK	3.10 3.12
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	3.96 3.95
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.35 1.36
ARAB INSURANCE	0.99 0.96
ARAB INT. INV/TRADE	0.98 0.98
ARAB INT. UNION INS	0.94 0.90
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.53 0.58
ARAB JOR/INVT/BK	2.10 2.10
ARAB PAPER CO/TRA	0.31 0.31
ARAB PHARMA/HAIF	0.76 0.75
ARAB PHARMA/CHEN	0.76 0.75
ARAB POTASH CO.	1.65 1.65
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65 1.65
BANK OF JORDAN	1.00 0.95
BEIJING INSURANCE	28.50 28.50
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	1.00 0.95
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	1.00 0.95
DAR ALDAMA DV/INV	1.00 0.95
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	1.00 0.95
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	1.00 0.95
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	1.00 0.95
GENERAL INSURANCE	1.00 0.95
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.00 0.95
GENERAL MINING	1.00 0.95
HINWEH MINERALS	1.00 0.95
HOLD LAND INS.	1.00 0.95
IND. MATCH JEMCO	1.00 0.95
INDSTR. DEVLPT BKK	1.00 0.95
INDSTR. COMM/AGR.	1.00 0.95
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	1.00 0.95
INTERN. COMM/INV	1.00 0.95
IRBID ELECTRICITY	1.00 0.95
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	1.00 0.95
ITERMED/PETRI/CH	1.00 0.95
J. TOUR-SP COMPLEX	1.00 0.95
JERUSALEM INS.	1.00 0.95
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	1.00 0.95
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	1.00 0.95
JOR ENGLE INS.	1.00 0.95
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.00 0.95
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.00 0.95
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.00 0.95
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	1.00 0.95
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	1.00 0.95
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.00 0.95
JOR LEASING CORP.	1.00 0.95
JOR LITH BRICK	1.00 0.95
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	1.00 0.95
JOR NATIONAL BANK	1.00 0.95
JOR PAPER CARDBR	1.00 0.95
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	1.00 0.95
JOR PIPES MANUFACT	1.00 0.95
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	1.00 0.95
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	1.00 0.95
JOR SECURIT CORP.	1.00 0.95
JOR SELPHO CHEM.	1.00 0.95
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	1.00 0.95
JOR WORSTED MLL	1.00 0.95
JOR. KUWAIT AGR	1.00 0.95
JOR. PETROLEUM REF	1.00 0.95
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP	1.00 0.95
JORDANIAN GULF REAL	1.00 0.95
JORDAN DAIRY	1.00 0.95
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.00 0.95
JORDAN INSURANCE	1.00 0.95
JORDAN ISLAMIC BKK	1.00 0.95
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.00 0.95
JORDAN TANNING	1.00 0.95
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	1.00 0.95
MACH/ENG/RENT/MAIN	1.00 0.95
MAS INDUSTRIES	1.00 0.95
MIDDEL EAST HOTEL	1.00 0.95
MIDDEL EAST INS	1.00 0.95
MIDDEL EAST RESEARCH	1.00 0.95
NAT. FIN. INVEST CO	1.00 0.95
NAT/CABLE/WIRE/WF	1.00 0.95
NATIONAL AHLIA INS	1.00 0.95
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	1.00 0.95
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	1.00 0.95
NATIONAL STEEL	1.00 0.95
ORIENT DRY BATTERY	1.00 0.95
PETRA BANK	1.00 0.95
PETRA JOR. INS.	1.00 0.95
PHILADELPHIA INS.	1.00 0.95
REAL ESTATE INV.	1.00 0.95
SHIPPING LINES	1.00 0.95
SPINNING WEAVING	1.00 0.95
THE HOUSING BANK	1.00 0.95
UNITED INSURANCE	1.00 0.95
UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	1.00 0.95
UNIVERSAL INS.	1.00 0.95
UNIVERSAL INDUSTRIES	1.00 0.95
YARMOUK INSURANCE	1.00 0.95

PHILIPPINES MAKATI

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR				BC-A	73.00	73.50	73.00
STOCK	BUY	SELL	OPEN	LC-A	.45	.46	.46
AC-A	9.30	9.40	9.40	LC-B	.46	.47	.47
AMS	2.55	2.60	2.70	PK-A	.37	.38	.38
FER-A	2.55	2.60	2.60	PK-B	.38	.39	.39
GLD	34.50	35.00	35.50	OIL SECTOR			
PLDT	203.00	204.00	208.00	BP-A	.023	.024	.023
KPSI-A	2.26	2.28	2.28	BP-B	.024	.025	.024
SMC-A	141.00	142.00	141.00	LRC-A	.0032	.0036	.003
SMC-B	212.00	213.00	212.00	LRC-B	.0032		.0032
MINING SECTOR				OPH-A	.039	.041	.039
APX-A	.038	.039	.04	OPH-B	.04	.042	.04
APX-B	.04	.041	.04	DV-A	.037	.038	.038
AT-A	20.50	20.75	21.00	DV-B	.038	.039	.039

Confidence returns to Gulf market

Peace prospects raise hopes for bonanza

BAHRAIN, July 19. (Reuters): Peace prospects have raised hopes for a bonanza in the Gulf as bankers and businessmen anticipate a multi-billion-dollar reconstruction of devastated cities, blitzed refineries and damaged ports.

For eight gruelling years, Iran and Iraq have pounded each other in some of the heaviest fighting since World War Two, and for the first time an end appears to be in sight.

"Everybody in the Gulf has been waiting for this," said a banker in the region. "Formidable amounts, billions of dollars, will be spent."

Plans

"The size of the damage is staggering," he said.

Oil and port facilities have been destroyed and infrastructure allowed to decay as resources were diverted to the war.

In Iraq, the 140,000 barrel per day (BPD) Basra oil refinery was an early casualty and Basra ships

and a build-up of silt blocked the Shatt Al-Arab waterway.

Bankers said plans for a billion-dollar scheme to supply water to Basra was put on ice after Iran laid siege to the city.

A \$2.5-billion refinery and petrochemical complex is now being planned southwest of Baghdad.

In Iran, petrochemical complexes have been blasted by constant Iraqi raids. In 1986, building stopped at an 85-per cent complete petrochemical complex at Bandar Khomeini.

Prices

South Koreans recently stopped construction work at the billion-dollar Nar-Kangan gas refinery after Iraq attacked the site.

Oil sources estimated it would take a billion dollars to rebuild Iran's heavily-damaged Kharg island oil terminal.

Iran's oil refining has plummeted from 1.32 million BPD in 1980 to less than 400,000 in 1986

after plants at Abadan, Bakhtaran, Masjid-i-Sulaiman, Tehran, Isfahan, Tabriz and Shiraz were bombed.

How the two countries will finance the rebuilding remains an open question.

Oil prices, after a months-long slide, jumped at news of Iran's acceptance of the ceasefire, after many traders speculated it would lead to greater OPEC co-operation in cutting output.

But Gulf economists feared a flood of oil as war-time blockades were lifted and Iran and Iraq raced to finance their reconstruction. They predicted oil prices might soon fall.

Bankers said Iraq was overburdened by debt and must sort out its affairs before any bank would undertake fresh lending.

"Banks have been working on the assumption the war would continue, and now must sit down for a new evaluation," said a Gulf-based banker.

"It will take at least six months to assess the damage, add up

domestic resources and see how much help is coming from outside."

"We never really stopped short-term finance, but to go medium-term will take some time," said one commercial banker.

"Iraq will have to rely on governments and government supported-banks. Private banks will be hesitant," he added.

Bankers said Iran's external debt was not nearly as large as Iraq's, but still may face problems securing commercial credit.

Investments

Construction firms from Turkey, South Korea and Taiwan, traditionally active in the Gulf, are initially set to gain the lion's share of rebuilding projects.

But after years of recession brought on by falling oil revenues, Gulf cement, aluminium, banking, transport and insurance industries all stand to

gain. "We will see if they are willing to take payment in kind — a lot of building will probably have to be paid for by oil barter deals. It will plainly be a shot in the arm for the Gulf," said a banker.

After huge investments during the oil boom, the local building materials industry took a nose dive as oil revenue and government spending fell with the price of oil.

Factories, many running at 50 per cent or less, now see hope of new outlets for their goods.

Kuwaiti banks seem in the best position to take advantage of business in Iraq and Dubai banks in Iran, bankers said.

"But there is a dilemma. Gulf banks will benefit from fees and commissions, but then Iran and Iraq will come back and ask for credit," one said.

"It is a good thing for Gulf economies — the important thing is confidence. Investors will now be tempted to bring back cash from abroad," he added.

Giant locust swarms add to Sudan's economic woes

KHARTOUM, July 19. (Reuters): Sudan's government, sagging under a host of major economic problems, now faces a fight against giant swarms of desert locusts and a battle of wills with labour unions.

A swarm of locusts 30 km long and 25 km wide (18 by 15 miles) has invaded Kabkabiya town in the western Darfur region, the national news agency SUNA said today.

SUNA quoted a senior Agriculture Ministry official as saying smaller swarms had been sighted near Khartoum.

The invasion of pests from West Africa adds to existing drought and famine crises as the swarms threaten to devour all before them.

Help

Sudan has appealed for Arab and international help and Agriculture Minister Al Fateh Al Tigani today attended an emergency meeting of East Africa's Desert Locust Control Council, SUNA said.

Sudan's cash-strapped treasury will have lost 43.5 million pounds (\$9.5 million) in revenue when a five-day strike by the union of accountants and

cashiers ends on Wednesday, officials estimate.

A 10-day stoppage by state-employed agriculturalists is due to end on Friday but the union said today that it planned another 10-day strike before August 20.

Strikes

The government has lashed unions for irresponsibility and for meddling in politics with strikes it said were tantamount to sabotage. It charged that only two of the 21 strikes so far this year had been legal.

It said stoppage at strategic installations would be banned and that it was considering firing illegal strikers.

The showdown between the unions and the government comes as impoverished Sudan and its 23 million people struggle to cope with a \$12-billion foreign debt and a crippling five-year old bush war in the south.

The country is also parched by the second drought since 1984 and a famine likely to be exacerbated by the dark clouds of hungry locusts sweeping the west.

And now Sudan's Auditor-General Idris Maki has charged that state funds are being embezzled in an increasing number of

rackets involving senior civil servants.

He gave no figures in a statement on Monday but Maki added that economic hardship and a lack of effective supervision were partly responsible for "a recent surge of corruption."

"Sudan is at a crossroads. It is now a question of 'to be or not to be,'" Finance Minister Omar Nour Al Dayem said on Monday.

Commenting on a planned protest march by the Bank Employees Union and at least 22 other unions, the minister said the government would not budge on its policy of privatising loss-making state enterprises.

Plans

The workers oppose plans to privatise four state-owned commercial banks which Nour Al Dayem says are run inefficiently.

He said the government would investigate all 76 state-owned businesses to determine their future.

"In each of these enterprises is a group of people who behave as if they, rather than the Sudanese people, own them," the finance minister said.

North Sea oil prices surge

LONDON, July 19. (UPI): The price of North Sea Brent blend crude oil jumped 25 cents today less than 24 hours after Iran announced it will accept a UN resolution aimed at ending fighting in the Gulf war, traders said.

The 25-cent jump lifted today's opening price of \$14.90 a barrel to \$15.15 a barrel, the same as Monday's close.

But most traders were puzzled that the price went up on the Iranian news because it could eventually lead to more supplies coming onto the world market.

Lull

Some traders said if a lull was maintained and the fighting brought to a stop, Iran would turn its supply taps on again. Likewise, such a move could improve relationships within the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

On Monday, US oil prices rose

by up to 90 cents a barrel as traders in the United States also responded to the surprise acceptance by Iran of the United Nations ceasefire terms.

Dealers in London said prices were further boosted by rumours that OPEC's price monitoring committee could meet at the end of July or early in August.

Incentive

The five-member ministerial committee is empowered to call a full OPEC meeting if it sees oil prices deviating too far from the organisation's reference price of \$18 a barrel.

But a spokeswoman at OPEC headquarters in Vienna, responding to the rumours, said although the possibility of a meeting was being discussed, no date had been fixed.

Geoff Pyne, an oil market analyst with stockbrokers

Phillips and Drew, said the peace could result in Iraq being brought into the quota system thus reducing its output from the current high level of 2.6 million barrels per day (BPD).

Pyne also suggested the powerful Arab OPEC states, led by Saudi Arabia would no longer have an incentive to keep prices low, thus punishing Iran and damaging its war effort.

Another factor was the large oil stocks that companies have been holding in case the war caused a shortage of crude.

As they would not need to hold on to the stocks, they might stop buying in the short-term, traders said.

They said this could lead to decline in tanker movements, especially because companies and traders would be waiting for a clearer indication of the state of the oil market.

Kuwait dinar deposit rates steady

KUWAITI dinar deposit rates were little changed in quiet trading yesterday, amid high liquidity from government salary payments.

Rates have dropped since Sunday, when the government ordered payment of July salaries before the five-day Eid Al Adha Muslim holiday begins on Friday.

The cash inflow meant banks did not need much borrowing to square positions ahead of the break, dealers said.

Overnight funds dealt at 1/2 per cent and tomorrow-next at one per cent while one-week funds were offered at three per cent.

Deposits

The Central Bank offered 5-1/4 per cent for three-week deposits and 5-3/8 per cent for one-month money from July 27, when the market is due to reopen. The fixed periods were close to Monday levels at 5-3/8, five per cent for the one-month, 5-3/4, 3/8 per cent for the two-month, 6-1/8, 5-3/4 per cent for the three-month and 6-1/4, 5-7/8 per cent for the six-month.

The dinar gained against the dollar. The Central Bank dinar exchange rate firmed to 0.28370/80 to the dollar from Monday's 0.28403/13, while commercial banks quoted spot rates of around 0.2836/72.

Meanwhile, Saudi rial inter-bank deposit rates were steady in a quiet market on the eve of Muslim Eid Al Adha holidays and a day after Iran announced it accepted a UN ordered ceasefire.

"It's all quiet and most bankers have gone on leave," said one Bahrain banker.

Tuesday is the last day for normal clearing in Saudi Arabia, with banks closing for general business between July 22 and 29.

In the offshore Bahrain market, banks will close from July 24 to 26, inclusive.

Bankers said rates were broadly consistent with those of Monday. One-month was quoted at 8-9/16, 3/8 per cent, three months at 8-11/16, 1/2 and six months at 8-3/4, 5/8.

The spot rial was unchanged from Monday at 3.7515/20 to the dollar.

Al Ahli Bank aims to expand operations



Stuart Webster

AS an integral part of Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait's restructuring, the board of directors have appointed Stuart Webster as general manager and Masaud Hayat and Seraj Al Baker as deputy general managers. These appointments will greatly strengthen the development and expansion of the bank locally and internationally.

Webster's experience extends over 25 years in the banking and finance sectors. He worked with Chase Manhattan from 1963 till 1978 during which he held different positions in many parts of the world, the last was as general



Masaud Hayat

manager of United Kingdom, Ireland and Channel Islands. In 1978, Webster joined Gulf Bank in Kuwait as general manager, a position he held till 1983, then worked as a financial consultant for private companies and individuals in UK, Canada and Middle East. Webster is a director in a number of international finance establishments.

Promoted Masaud Jawhar Hayat has been promoted to Deputy General Manager — Local Credit. Hayat started his banking career with Al Ahli Bank in February 1974 after graduating in Econ-



Seraj Al Baker

omics from Kuwait University. Prior to this position Hayat has held various responsibilities and has been assistant general manager, head of Credit Group since 1986, he is also a director in a number of banks and companies.

Seraj Al Baker has been appointed Deputy General Manager — Treasury and International. Al Baker, who is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA, has more than 13 years of experience.

During this period he has held a number of responsible positions: starting at KFTCIC, then at KIC, as deputy general man-



Nasser Abdulla Malek

ager — Treasury and Syndications, and finally at Arab Banking Corporation (ABC), as senior vice president, responsible for ABC's global investment banking, as well as assistant to the president and chief executive. Al Baker has also served on the boards of a number of investment and financial institutions.

The board of directors have also promoted Nasser Abdulla Malek to assistant general manager in charge of retail banking. Nasser Malek has more than 30 years of experience the last 20 years of which has been with Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait.

Gold firms slightly

Central banks force the dollar down

LONDON, July 19. (Reuters): The dollar fell sharply today after central bankers around the world intervened in foreign currency markets to push its value lower.

The US central bank sold dollars for the second consecutive day after the Bank of Japan and West Germany's Bundesbank set the ball rolling. Several other European central banks joined in.

The dollar fell nearly two pence and one yen to close in Europe at 1.8640 West German marks and 133.95 yen. It shed more than two cents to trade \$1.6935 to the British pound sterling.

"The Bundesbank is not on its own against a stronger dollar any more," said a Frankfurt dealer.

Meanwhile, gold firmed slightly despite easier oil prices on

news of aerial combat between Iranian and Iraqi aircraft in the Gulf, just a day after Iran accepted a United Nations resolution calling for a ceasefire in the eight-year-old conflict.

Worry

Traders worry that inflation could rise if continued fighting in the Gulf affects oil shipments. That worry sent Tokyo's 225-share Nikkei index tumbling by 1.85 per cent and lingering concern about inflation depressed Wall Street stocks.

Gold, a favoured hedge against inflation, was fixed at \$436.25 an ounce this afternoon, up 60 cents from the same fixing on Monday.

Brent crude oil from the North Sea, a world benchmark, rose about 15 cents a barrel from Monday's European close — sharply below earlier highs in

Tokyo — to trade around \$15.10 for September delivery.

European central banks are concerned about inflation, too. But they believe the risk of higher inflation would come if a strong dollar boosts import prices.

To keep that from happening, West Germany's Bundesbank has intervened in currency markets almost every day this month.

Trend

But some dealers had thought the Bundesbank was unable to win support from other central banks in its campaign to cap a soaring dollar. Now they think the West Germans have won that support and argue that could spell the end of the dollar's month-old rally.

"But the underlying (upward) trend of the dollar has not changed," said Trev Trivedi, a senior trader at Daiwa Europe Ltd.

Many traders believe a buoyant American economy and a narrowing US trade deficit, which sent the dollar climbing last month, will keep boosting it.

It climbed more than eight per cent since mid-June.

Traders also believe the Reagan administration wants a strong dollar, since that would rule out any interest rate increases while Republican Vice-President George Bush campaigns for the US presidency.

Meanwhile, prospects for more rain in the US Midwest sent grain prices skidding. Corn (maize) and soybean prices fell the maximum permitted by the Chicago Board of Trade. Wheat prices also tumbled.

Traders' concern that drought would cut this year's harvest had previously sent grain prices soaring.

Investors urged to do more business with UK

Anglo-Arab trade looks set to grow further

LONDON, July 19. (KUNA): Iran's acceptance of the United Nations resolution 598 would lead to an expansion in Anglo-Arab trade, a conference was told here today.

Speaker after speaker, who addressed the one-day meeting organised by the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce (ABCC), welcomed the Iranian decision.

They expressed the hope that this development would lead to a peaceful settlement to the war between Iran and Iraq and in turn to the development of Anglo-Arab trade ties.

The gathering was held as part of "Campaign 88" launched today by the chamber to encourage British firms to do business in the Arab world.

Welcomed

British Minister for Trade Alan Clark "unreservedly welcomed the encouraging news of Iran's acceptance of the UN Security Council ceasefire resolution."

He told the one-day conference, held at the Cafe Royal, central London, that the United Kingdom "wanted to play a major part in the re-construction programme, after the conflict was brought to a peaceful end."

Clark expressed the hope that Iran's decision would lead to an early ceasefire and a peaceful settlement to the war.

In his speech on "British trade

with the Arab world" the minister underlined the importance of the promotion of economic links with the region.

The UK exported £4.5 billion worth of goods to the Arab world in 1987, he recalled, pointing out that the area represents Britain's most important partner outside Europe and North America.

Clark referred to the importance of British defence sales to the region, after the announcement recently of the Anglo-Saudi deal which is said to be worth around £10 billion.

Commitment

Britain would be happy "to assist our friends in the Arab world to enhance their defence capabilities."

The minister emphasised the need to stimulate trade in both directions.

Meanwhile, he welcomed the signing of the trade protocol between the EEC and the GCC, making it clear that the agreement would be beneficial for both sides.

For his part, the heir to the British throne, Prince Charles, who was the principal speaker at the gathering, gave his personal backing and influence to the development of Anglo-Arab trade.

The Prince of Wales emphasised the British commitment and interest in improving relations in all fields with the area.

He indicated that trade is of

vital importance to this part of the world, and referred to the British readiness to export technology, consumer services, infrastructure and basic industries to the Arab world.

The prince was confident that real opportunities exist in the region for the expansion of British business and exports.

In his address "Arab-British trade: opportunities for future co-operation in business," the prince also spoke about the importance of developing joint projects between the two sides.

He also pledged his determination to foster Anglo-Arab friend-

ship and called on Arab investors to do more business with Britain.

Earlier, the Jordanian Minister for Trade and Industry, Hamdi Al-Tubba, noted that a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war would enhance opportunities for the development of Anglo-Arab trade.

Manpower

Addressing the conference, Al-Tubba called for the strengthening of joint ventures between the Arab countries and Britain.

He stressed that Jordan enjoys every advanced infrastructure and has a highly developed manpower.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, July 19. (Reuters): A wave of panic selling sent the share market tumbling, wiping out yesterday's surge to post-crash highs. The All Ordinaries index fell 19.3 to 1,633.2.

TOKYO — Prices closed sharply lower on investor nervousness about possible higher inflation after a rise in oil prices. The Nikkei index fell 513.09 to 27,149.03.

HONG KONG: Prices fell further in late trading from a weak start with sentiment affected by the sharp fall in Tokyo. The Hang Seng index fell 33.37 to 2,677.80.

SINGAPORE: Prices closed

lower on profit-taking with the Straits Times industrial index down 10.55 to 1,156.03.

BOMBAY: Prices rose for a second successive day, boosted by monsoon rains across India. Brokers said the rains would boost the agriculture-based economy and hydro-electric power supplies, and revive industrial demand.

FRANKFURT: Prices suffered further broad but moderate losses amid concern the rise in the Bundesbank's securities repurchase rate would not be the last. The Dax 30-share index fell 9.64 to 1,170.10.

ZURICH: Prices closed lower

in moderately active trading as falls in Tokyo and New York dampened overnight sentiment. The All-Share Swiss index fell 7.7 to 884.1.

PARIS: Prices ended off their lows in moderate trading on late bargain-hunting after Wall Street opened firmer than expected. The CAC index fell 7.8 to 347.7.

LONDON: Prices were mixed with the market cautious ahead of UK economic data which could trigger another rise in domestic interest rates. At 1430 GMT, the FTSE-100 index was up 0.1 at 1,849.4.

NEW YORK: Wall Street turned narrowly lower in morning trading, with blue chips showing the biggest losses, nervous over Tokyo's overnight drop.

Sweeping tax reform under review

TOKYO, July 19. (AP): Japan's parliament convened an extraordinary session today to debate the introduction of a sweeping tax reform package that has drawn heavy fire from opposition parties.

Ruling and opposition parties agreed to convene both houses of the Diet for the special 70-day session, lasting until Sept. 26, according to a Diet official who requested anonymity.

The government often calls extraordinary sessions to debate issues left over from previous meetings. Three such sessions were called last year, the official said.

Proposal

Chief Cabinet Secretary Keizo Obuchi last Friday requested the session to discuss the tax issue, the official said. The previous ordinary Diet session ended on May 25 and lasted for 150 days.

The Japan Socialist Party, the leading opposition bloc in the Diet, joined most other opposition parties in criticising the proposal, saying it will foster inequities. Fierce debate is expected during the extraordinary session.

GOVERNMENT TENDERS

Tender No. N 247/88

Tender's internal No. 12/88
Concerned party: Kuwait National Petroleum Co.
Requirements: Supply of steel pipes and relevant joints
Relevant fee: KD 20
Initial guarantee: 3-1/2% of offers value
Closing date: 12 noon, Sunday 4.9.88

Tender No. RE/202

Tender's internal No. 20/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Public Works
Requirements: Construction and maintenance of temporary roads in Abudai
Relevant fee: KD 50
Initial guarantee: 5% of offers value
Closing date: 12 noon Sunday 14.8.88

Qualified tenderers:

1. Mussaid Al-Saleh & Sons Co.
2. General Syndicate Trdg. Co. Ltd.
3. Barco. (Buildings & Roads Co.)
4. Unarco. (United Arab Contractors)
5. Copn Constructional Projects Co.
6. Al Ahmadiah Contg. & Trdg. Co.
7. Al Marwa Trdg. & Contg. Co.
8. United Gulf Construction Co.
9. Combico.
10. International Contractors Group
11. Al Faiba Gen. Contg. Co.
12. Mishref Trdg. & Contg. Co.
13. Dallas Construction Co. Ltd.
14. Shaheen Al-Ghanim Buildings & Roads Contg. Co.

Tender No. 2786 C

Tender's internal No. 25/88
Concerned party: Kuwait Oil Company
Requirements: Supply of drilling equipment
Relevant fee: KD 30
Initial guarantee: 2% of offers value
Closing date: 12 noon Tuesday 30.8.88

Tender No. MCVI-88/88

Tender's internal No. 21/88
Concerned party: Ministry of Commerce & Industry



SOVIET news agency Tass released this photo of a MIG-29 jet fighter. The aircraft will be on show this September at an air show in England. The plane is seen here undergoing test trials. (Reuter wirephoto)



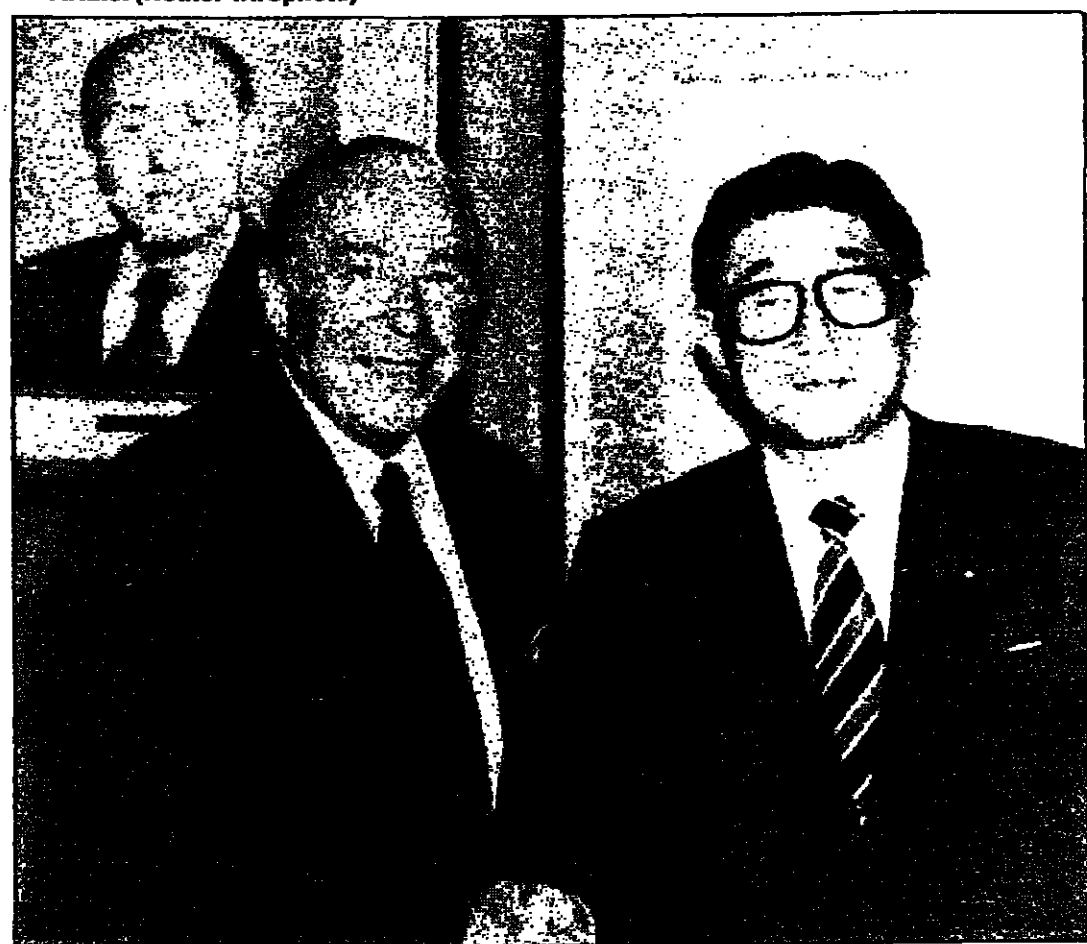
SPECIAL prosecutor James McKay (left) tells reporters at a press conference on Monday that Attorney General Edwin Meese took favours from a long-time friend and probably violated three laws, but the case was not strong enough to criminally prosecute. Meese (right) denied the allegations. (Reuter wirephoto)



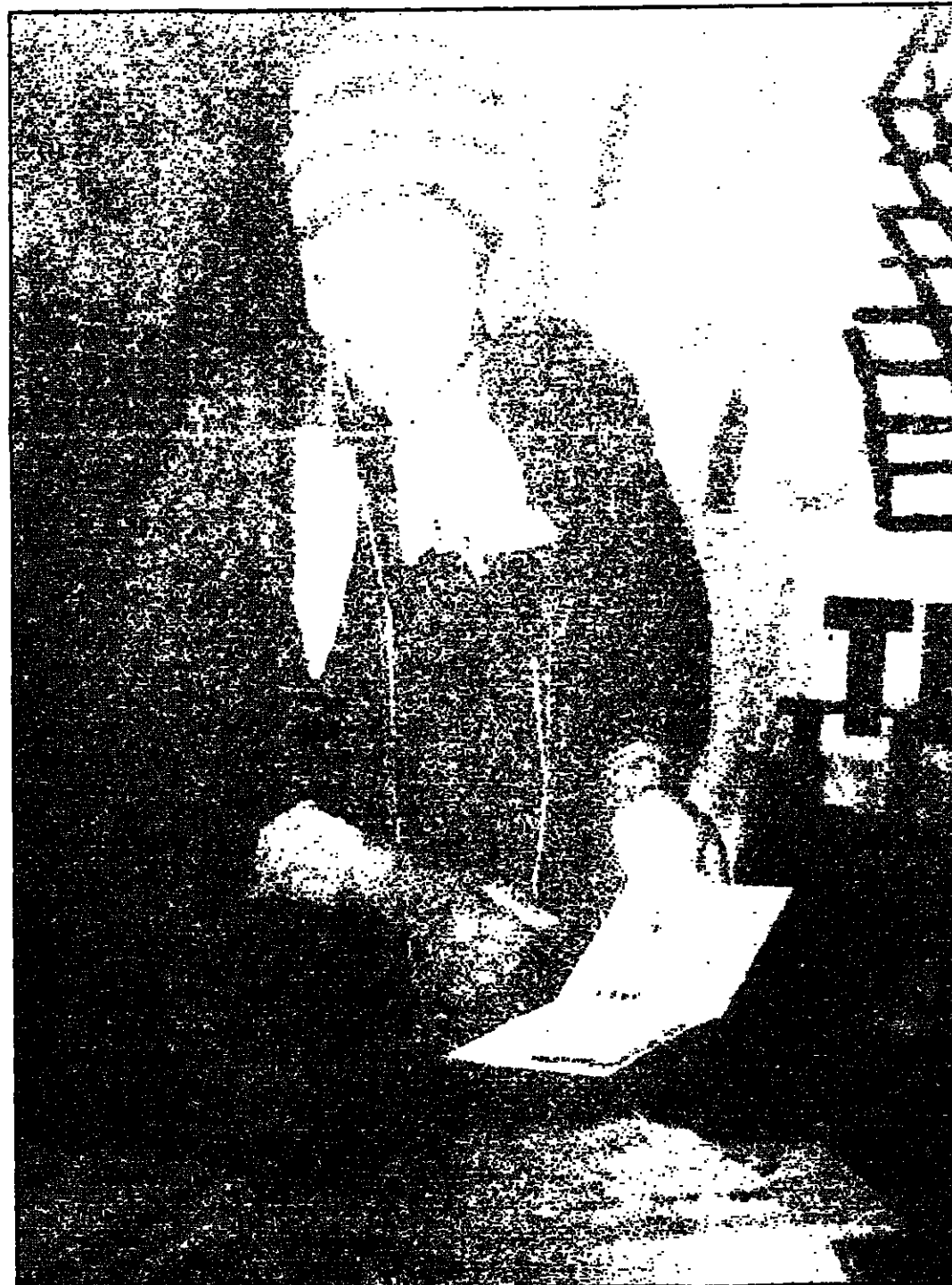
INDIAN Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi (left) shakes hand with Turkish President Kenan Evren (middle) as Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal looks on. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE Democratic National Convention opened (below) on Monday with the confidence of delegates soaring after Michael Dukakis and Jesse Jackson brought the Democrats to the brink of unity. Former President Jimmy Carter (above) delivering his speech at the convention. (Reuter wirephoto)



US Secretary of State George Shultz (left) shakes hands with Shintaro Abe, secretary-general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) when they met at the LDP headquarters in Tokyo yesterday. (Reuter wirephoto)



WINNIE MANDELA, wife of jailed black leader Nelson Mandela, reads one of the thousands of birthday cards from all over the world sent to South Africa's most famous political prisoner on his 70th birthday. (Reuter wirephoto)



RECENT file photo of Mount Hagen drummers in traditional dress. The Papua New Guinea highland tribesmen are up in arms over a newspaper report describing them as 'perverted cannibals.' (Reuter wirephoto)



WEST German pop singer Udo Lindenberg (left) and Soviet pop singer Alla Pugachova (right) display their joint new LP entitled 'Songs Instead of Letters' during a press conference in Moscow at the headquarters of the Soviet record company 'Melodya.' (Reuter wirephoto)



RESIDENTS of the town of Uhasnagar, Bombay, wade through water to get to their place of work as floods caused by heavy rains continued to devastate many parts of India, claiming at least 100 lives in the last four days. (Reuter wirephoto)



SOUTH Korean farmers use wooden poles to beat riot police who stopped them marching on the National Assembly yesterday in protest against US pressure on Seoul to import farm products. (Reuter wirephoto)



DUTCH Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek seen with a Palestinian child in the Kalandia refugee camp, in the occupied West Bank. (Reuter wirephoto)

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION

For Rent

JABRIYA, 2 apartments in a villa, each 400m², consisting of saloon, dining room, master bedroom, 3 additional bedrooms and servant's quarters, CAC and heating. Tele. 5314748/9.

(AT5-43269-3)

SABAHIA, Block 2, House 44, Street 13. Floor of villa deluxe, CAC, suitable for a big family or 2 small families. Rent KD350 with water and electricity. Tele. Abu Youssef, 5382975/4 Abu Ahmed, 3617095.

(AT2-43221-6)

Available

HAWALLI, near Dr. Nawgiri Clinic. One room for a bachelor, Indian, preferably Mangalorean to share with an Indian Catholic family. Bus routes 37, 102, 14, 504. Tele. 2436003, 4.30 - 7.30 pm.

(AT5-43268-2)

SALMIYA, sharing accommodation for a bachelor. Tele. Mr. Robert, 5742845.

(AT3-43241-3)

IN Farwaniya, behind Holiday Inn, 1 room for a bachelor or couple or working girls. Tele. Mary, 2469348, 2441746, 8.30 am - 5.30 pm.

(AT4-43261-3)

FOR SALE

Cars

TOYOTA Crown Super Saloon, 2.8, 1984, white, fully automatic, in excellent condition. Mechanical inspection welcomed. KD600. KD1,500 to company. KD69 per month. Tele. 3726414.

(AT5-43270-3)

TOYOTA Cressida GL 84 model, fully automatic, with AC, radio, cassette. One owner since new and without any accidents. KD1700. Tele. Ifikhar 2529238.

(AT3-43244-3)

Required immediately Electrical Draftsman for switchgear plant with 3 years' exp. For interview please call, Eng. Jamal 4743340.

NISSAN Patrol (SWB) 1983, AC, manual, 4-wheel drive, 4.2 litre engine, power steering, yellow with white roof, 61,000 kms. In excellent condition. KD1600 (fixed price). Tele. Daniel 2530000/2533000, ext. 8007.

(AT4-43257-2)

ISUZU Gemini, 1976 model, purchased in Sept. 1977, manual, rust colour. KD200, ono. Tele. 2457842/3 ext. 30, 8 am-1pm, 4-7pm.

(AT3-43234-3)

MITSUBISHI L300, mini bus, 7-seater, 14000 kms, new, showroom condition. Tele. 5380798.

(AT5-43271-3)

Computers

RADIO-SHACK model 1, micro-computer, D/D disk operating, stabiliser 110v, two disk drives, original Radio-Shack programmes GL/inventor/corplan basic codes. Tele. Jo, 5759496.

(AT3-43247-3)

APPLE 11+, two micrometre dis-drives, disks and utilities, monitor, cooling fan. In excellent condition. Highest offer. Tele. Mohammed, 5644538, anytime.

(AT4-43259-3)

Furniture

IKEA wall unit, sofa-set, glass coffee tables, Form Arabia queen-size bed and brown dralon head-board. All items are as new. Tele. Mr. Storey 3721488, 3722472, ext. 284.

(AT3-43237-3)

Miscellaneous

HAWALLI, (near Dr. Nawgiri's Clinic) 3 bed room flat, available, from 1st August. Rent KD 150. Tele. 2618393 after 2 pm.

(AT5-43275-3)

SALMIYA near co-operative in a very beautiful location; fully furnished 2-bedroom flat including dining room, sitting room, electrical appliances and tele. for sale. New rent KD180. Tele. 5713762 (Res).

(AT4-43255-3)

HOUSEHOLD items; excellent dining table with 6 chairs, gas cooker, cupboard. All are brand new. Also other goods for sale. Reasonable prices. Tele. 2529307.

(AT5-43274-3)

FARWANIYA, furnished flat with AC, sofa sets, dining table, fridge, oven, bed cupboards, curtains and carpets for sale at reasonable prices. Rent KD125. Tele. Mohammad, 4874460 (morning) 4711086 (evening).

(AT5-43276-2)

GRUNDIG TV: Philips automatic washing machine, carpet, wall to wall and plants. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tele. 5659473.

(AT5-43273-2)

SERVICES

Baby Sitting

AVAILABLE, affectionate, motherly person to take care of your baby in Salmiya near "Kuds Pharmacy". Tele. 2423458 ext. 30.

(AT3-43233-3)

Tuition

AN experienced and qualified teacher required specially for science subjects of the 11th standard. Tele. Rashid, 5619089, 4817546.

(AT4-43265-3)

WANTED

BREAKFAST bar/stools. Tele. 3710499.

(AT4-43200-3)

FOR RENT

Sahwa Area: 3-Brm flats with carpets and curtains & tel. line. KD. 375/-
Mishref Area: 4-Brm villa with garden KD. 650/-
Bayan Area: 3-Brm villa with garden KD. 650/-
Sahwa Area: Half villa, ground floor KD 450/-
Plus many more flats & villas.

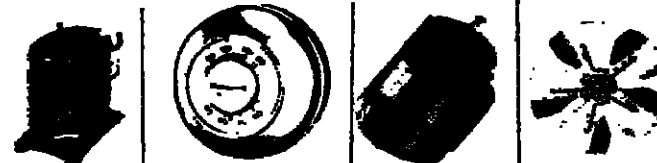
Call: Boushahri Real Estate Est.

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SPORTS

ARAB TIMES, WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 1988

S. Koreans endure near-brutal training for riches

SEOUL, July 19, (Reuters): Huge bonuses and life-time pensions await South Korean gold medalists at the Seoul Olympics whose will to win has been tempered by a near-brutal training regime during the run-up to the Games.

For 18 months more than 300 sportsmen and women have endured a snow-straining, mentally-exhausting dawn to dusk programme at a secluded camp in northern Seoul.

The only respite they have from hours of repetitive training routines and stamina-building exercises at the Taepung Sports Centre is when they compete overseas.

Spend

Otherwise, they are up at dawn for group aerobics and jogging, spend a day honing sporting skills and are in bed by the 10 pm curfew.

In recent weeks, the "fighting and mental spirit" of selected athletes has been toughened during special training at a military sports unit at Songnam, in south-east Seoul.

Track and field athletes of both sexes were the first to don combat fatigues and helmets and undergo tough commando training for up to 14 hours a day.

It was decided to send athletes for special training to improve their mental strength and pluck, said a spokesman for the Korean Olympic Committee.

Family and social sacrifices are substantial, but they are willingly endured in a bid for Olympic gold and the cash bonanza that goes with it.

"Training is very difficult and often I miss my family," said Ahn Byung-Keun, a judo gold medalist in the 71kg weight division at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

"But I will overcome the personal problems as I am hoping for another gold medal."

Ahn is one of 10 serious gold medal contenders in the 481-strong Korean Olympic squad, which will be one of the largest at the Games beginning on September 17.

Generous bonuses will be awarded to successful athletes in addition to life-time pensions.

Track and field competitors who win gold medals will reap 100 million won (about \$137,000). Other Korean sports federations have yet to fix their bonuses but Korean Olympic Committee officials believe they will average \$100,000.

Pensions are linked to achievements in Olympic, Asian and University Games plus World Championships. An Olympic gold medal is worth \$822 a month.

South Korea is pinning its hopes on two judoists apart from Ahn, as well as on boxers, wrestlers, archers, shooters and table tennis players to at least equal the six first places achieved in Los Angeles. The country came 10th in the overall medals table there four years ago.

The Taepung training camp was the birth-place of Korea's 1984 successes and has fuelled the country's rise as an Asian sports power.

Increase

The sprawling 80-acre complex was established after the Tokyo Olympics in 1964 to increase the competitiveness of the country's athletes. The government foots the annual upkeep bill of \$7 million.

Training facilities at Taepung are among the best in the world. There are separate, fully-equipped gymsnasia for basketball, volleyball, boxing, judo, and weightlifting, plus an indoor track, an international standard swimming pool, tennis courts, archery range and a full-size football pitch of artificial turf.

"This is one of the most impressive training camps I have seen anywhere," said Hungarian gymnastics coach Klara Bekes, on a recent visit.

"The Koreans are dedicated to sporting greatness. They are determined to do well in front of their own people at the Olympics."

Centre head Kim Sung-jip denies suggestions by some commentators that the quest for Olympic glory takes too heavy a toll and that many of the 137 coaches push the athletes too hard.

"Our training programme is very tough, but could be tougher," said Kim, a former weightlifter who became the first Korean to win an Olympic medal, at the 1948 London Games.

"Hard training is very important for oriental people whose technique is often good but body power very poor."

"All the coaches and competitors are very proud to be here. This training centre is open only to top class competitors. They are the best."

DIAL FAILS TO CLEAR QUALIFYING HEIGHT IN POLE-VAULT

Carl and Steve Lewis shine at US trials

INDIANAPOLIS, July 19, (Reuters): Two unrelated men named Lewis set history's fifth best performances in two different sports yesterday at the US Olympic trials.

Carl Lewis, the 1984 quadruple Olympic champion, twice out-jumped compatriot Larry Myricks to win the long jump competition with a leap of 8.76 metres that equalled history's fifth best performance in the event on an often rainy day.

Steve Lewis ran the fifth fastest 400 metres in history — 44.11 seconds — to defeat collegiate teammate Danny Everett in a semifinal race that established a world junior record.

US representatives to the Seoul Olympics in six other events also were decided, but none could generate the excitement of the long jump and 400 metres.

Brought

"I had to dig down and win," said the upbeat Carl Lewis after one of the best long jump competitions of all-time. "But I am a competitor and Larry brought out the competitor in me."

Myricks, making his fourth Olympic team, put the pressure on Lewis by leaping 8.74 metres, history's eighth best jump, on his fourth attempt.

But Lewis responded magnificently to win the competition.

Steve Lewis's victory was less tense. The 19-year-old surged into the lead in the final turn of the 400 metres and no one could catch him.

The mark was the second-fastest ever run at low altitude and a world junior record.



Lewis stands with palms up in the rain after his long jump. (Reuters wirephoto)

The performances by the two Lewises were the best in the world this year. Carl's gave him his second gold in the first four days of the nine-day meeting.

On Saturday the 27-year-old star won the 100 metres in a wind-aided 9.78 seconds, the fastest time ever in the event.

He also competed yesterday in the other individual event in which he hopes to make the US

team — the 200 metres — running twice in preliminary rounds. Again he was the leader, clocking 20.03 seconds in the quarterfinals to advance to tomorrow's semifinals and final.

There was no competition today.

While US coaches for Seoul said they were pleased with the showing so far by American athletes, they will go into Olympics



Eddie Washington (centre) grimaces after being jostled during the 800m dash. (Reuters wirephoto)

without two US record holders who faltered yesterday.

Pole-vault record holder Joe Dial failed to clear a height in qualifying and Mark Nenow, the US record holder at 10,000 metres, finished fourth in his speciality to fail to make the US team by one spot.

Lorenzo Daniel, the fastest 200 metres runner in the world this year, also will be missing

from the Seoul team, having withdrawn from the 200 metres quarterfinals with an injury.

Also missing will be Sandra Farmer-Patrick, who began competing for the United States this year after finishing fourth in the women's 400 metres hurdles at the World Championships last year for her native Jamaica. She was disqualified last night for running outside her lane after

having won her semifinal race. Valerie Brisco, winner of three gold medals at the 1984 games, will be on the American team again after finishing third in the women's 400 metres final.

US 800 metres record holder Johnny Gray also earned a berth for Seoul. He won the 800 metres final in one minute, 43.96 seconds.

"Two-time world 110 metres hurdles champion Greg Foster said yesterday he would compete in the trials despite a broken arm."

"I will run," Foster told Reuters. "I feel OK and I will be out at the track this afternoon to show you what kind of shape I'm in."

Foster broke his left arm in two places on July 4 while working out in Panama, California near his home. He was in hospital for several days.

Advised

Doctors inserted 14 pins and five steel plates in the arm when Foster was admitted to hospital and advised him not to compete. But Foster, the silver medalist in the 1984 Olympics, said he would take his chances.

At the trials, he must finish among the top three in the 110 metres final on Saturday to qualify for the US team for the Seoul Olympics.

His first race is scheduled for Friday. Foster said he would compete in the race with a special brace.

Bob Kersee, Foster's adviser, said the brace had not hampered Foster's technique in practice.

"He can't put a lot of pressure on the hand at the start but he can balance himself," Kersee said.

Johnson not worried by Lewis' performance

TORONTO, July 19, (AP): Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson has a message for American sensation Carl Lewis: "Tell him I'm coming for him."

Johnson's fighting words in an interview yesterday were a prelude to a showdown in Seoul that is shaping up as one of the titanic clashes between sprinters in Olympic history.

Lewis, a four-time gold medalist at the 1984 Olympics who has been left in Johnson's wake in their last half-dozen races, set the stage for the epic encounter at the Seoul Olympics with a spectacular wind-aided 9.78-second 100-metre run at the US Olympic trials on Saturday.

Johnson holds the world record of 9.83.

Lewis's time was nullified because the winds were gusting behind him at 5.2 metres per second — more than double the allowable maximum of 2.0.

"All I can say, it was a very good run, although the wind was over five," Johnson said. "But I'm not trying to worry about that right now."

Expected

"I'm just going to keep my cool until the right time comes to show my stuff."

Johnson will run at the Canadian Olympic trials in Ottawa, Aug 5-7, but is not expected to face Lewis again until the Olympics in September.

Johnson has not completed a competitive race since injuring his hamstring in West Germany in February. In May, he pulled up during a sprint in Tokyo.

The injury was more serious than first diagnosed and a complete rest was ordered.

Johnson's coach, Charlie Francis, said his sprinter is "completely healed."

"But we have to make sure the flexibility is still there," Francis said.

Despite Johnson's extended absence, Francis doesn't see Lewis as a threat to his sprinter's title as the world's fastest man.

"With 5.2 metres of wind, the 9.78 wind-assisted run is really worth 9.98-10.05 seconds," said Francis. "It's really nothing."

However, many track experts see Lewis closing in on Johnson's world record.

Concentrate

"Before the wind-assisted run, Lewis ran a 9.96 in a preliminary round of the US Olympic trials last week. The sprint equalled history's seventh fastest time. Lewis has run faster, clocking 9.93 seconds in Rome to finish second behind Johnson in his world record run."

While Lewis claims he is in the best shape ever, and able to concentrate totally on his running, Johnson has had distractions.

Besides his injury, Johnson has endured sponsorship controversies, bad publicity over the way he handles his money and a communication breakdown with Francis, his personal coach of 10 years.

"It's all water under the bridge now," Francis said. "Ben's in very good shape. We know from practice he's ready for the race."

"He's running personal best times in the 60 metres of 6.35 seconds, which puts him on target for between a 9.78 and 9.8 in the 100 metres."

Burns takes Athletics past Indians

NEW YORK, July 19, (AP): The Oakland Athletics, who cooled off after a hot start in the American League West, could be ready to heat up again with the help of rookie pitcher Todd Burns.

Burns, 2-0, making his fourth start, allowed seven hits and two earned runs while pitching his first career complete game last night as the A's defeated the Cleveland Indians 7-2.

"It's a little premature, but he hasn't had a bad outing yet," manager Tony La Russa said of Burns, who has a 2.11 earned run average in six appearances since being called up from the minors on May 31.

Burns' only mediocre performance was a no-decision against the Indians in his last start July 6, a game the A's lost 8-6 after Burns allowed four runs in five innings and left with a 4-3 lead.

Jose Canseco drove in three runs with a single and his major league-leading 25th homer and Stan Javier went 5-for-5 for the A's.

Tigers 12, Mariners 3
Detroit broke a 3-3 tie against Seattle with a five-run sixth inning that included Lou Whitaker's two-run single and the second of three RBI singles by Gary Pettis. Walt Terrell, 4-7, halted a four-game losing streak with a five-hitter.

Yankees 7, Rangers 2
New York took control against Texas with a five-run first inning keyed by Joel Skinner's two-run double. Rich Dotson, 8-

3, allowed six hits in 5-2-3 innings for his first win since June 13 for the Yankees.

Red Sox 6, Twins 5

Reliever Lee Smith had Boston squirming in the ninth inning before holding on for its fifth consecutive victory under interim manager Joe Morgan. Marty Barrett hit his first homer of the season and Larry Parrish broke a 3-3 tie with a sacrifice fly in a three-run inning for the Red Sox, who have won 10 straight at home.

Brewers 6, Royals 1

Milwaukee handed Kansas City its fifth consecutive loss as Joey Meyer and Charlie O'Brien hit two-run homers in the second inning and Mike Birkbeck pitched a seven-hitter for eight innings. Birkbeck, 4-5 won his second straight decision since being recalled from the minors earlier this month.

Blue Jays 12, Angels 2

Toronto had seven consecutive hits in the first inning and finished with 15 in its easy victory over California. Left-hander Jeff Musselman, 1-0, making his first start of the season after completing rehabilitation from shoulder surgery, blanked the Angels on four hits for six innings.

Meanwhile Tim Lincecum and the Los Angeles Dodgers are well on the road to the National League West title.

Leary pitched a five-hitter and Mike Marshall homered in the ninth inning last night as the Dodgers beat the St Louis Cardinals 1-0 for their sixth straight victory.

Los Angeles now leads the division by eight games over San Francisco and Houston.

The Dodgers started a 16-game trip — the longest in the majors — after the All-Star break by winning five times in Chicago. The victory in St Louis gave Los Angeles the best road record in baseball at 29-13.

"Our pitching has been sensational," manager Tom Lasorda said after Leary's fourth shutout this season.

The Cardinals have lost 10 of their last 11 games and have not scored more than three runs in any of them. St Louis fell into a last-place tie in the NL East with Philadelphia.

Reds 2, Mets 1

Nick Esasky hit a sacrifice fly and Tim Lincecum's error on the relay allowed another run to score, enabling Cincinnati to edge New York. Danny Jackson, 11-5, pitched three-hit ball for seven Red's victories.

Cubs 8, Giants 3

Vance Law and Mitch Webster hit two-run singles during a six-run rally in the eighth inning that sent Chicago over San Francisco. The Cubs ended a five-game losing streak and the Giants lost their fifth in a row. Pat Perry, 4-2, got the victory.

Astros 6, Expos 1

Joaquin Andujar got his first victory in more than a year with home-run support from Kevin Bass and Buddy Bell as Houston won at Montreal. Bass hit a

three-run homer in the first inning after an RBI single by Glenn Davis.

Results

American League

New York	7	Texas	2
Boston	6	Minnesota	3
Milwaukee	8	Kansas City	1
Detroit	12	Seattle	3
Toronto	12	California	0
Oakland	7	Cleveland	2

National League

Chicago	8	San Francisco	3
Atlanta	9	Philadelphia	8
Philadelphia	4	Atlanta	1
Cincinnati	2	New York	1
Houston	6	Montreal	1
Los Angeles	1	St Louis	0

Standings

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	54	36	.600	—
New York	53	37	.589	1
Boston	48	42	.533	6
Milwaukee	48	44	.522	7
Cleveland	47	46	.505	8 1/2
Toronto	46	47	.495	9 1/2
Baltimore	29	63	.315	26

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	56	37	.602	—
Minnesota	51	40	.560	4
Kansas City	46	46	.500	9 1/2
California	44	48	.478	11 1/2
Chicago	42	49	.462	13
Atlanta	41	50	.451	14
Seattle	36	56	.391	19 1/2

National League East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	53	37	.589	—
Pittsburgh	44	44	.500	8 1/2
Montreal	46	45	.505	9 1/2
Philadelphia	39	52	.429	16 1/2
St Louis	39	52	.429	16 1/2

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	54	36	.600	—
San Francisco	46	44	.511	8
Houston	47	45	.511	8
Cincinnati	45	47	.489	10
San Diego	42	50	.457	13
Atlanta	32	58	.356	22

Ballesteros soars back after four lean years

LYTHAM ST ANNES, England, July 19, (Reuters): Severiano Ballesteros, the farmer's son who captured his third British Open yesterday, unleashed his blazing talent on the world of golf when he turned professional as a 17-year-old in 1974.

Two years later he took the British Open by storm when he led for three rounds at Royal Birkdale before falling away on the final day as American Johnny Miller swept through for victory. But the Spaniard, one of four golfing brothers, had labelled himself a star of the future and did not need long to justify the billing.

Just three years later — when the British Open was last played at Royal Lytham in 1979 — it was Ballesteros, then a fresh-faced 22-year-old, who won his first major by claiming the world's greatest tournament.

Masterful

He lifted the title helped by a birdie at the 16th after playing a masterful shot out of a car park which bordered the hole. The shot earned him the nickname "the car park champion."

In the five years which followed Ballesteros added three more major titles. He won the US Masters in 1980 and 1983 in Augusta, Georgia, and claimed his second British Open crown before yesterday his last major title — at St Andrews in 1984.

But his lack of success in majors over the past four years had led some to suggest Ballesteros was on the wane.

He led the 1986 US Masters by two shots at the 15th hole on the final day but splashed his second shot into water and handed victory to American Jack Nicklaus.

A year later he reached a playoff for the Masters title with Australian Greg Norman and American Larry Mize, but was beaten at the first extra hole after missing a short putt. Mize went on to beat Norman by chipping in at the second sudden-death hole.

A member of Europe's Ryder Cup team who beat the United States in 1983 and 1987, Ballesteros has finished top of the European Order of Merit money list four times, the last in 1986.

Born in Pedrera in April 1957 and now a Santander resident, Ballesteros' first win came in the 1976 Dutch Open.

Since then he has triumphed in another 51 tournament on both sides of the Atlantic. Japan and New Zealand and has earned close to £1.5 million (\$2.5 million) in prize money.

Six wins in 1986 made him the first to earn £1 million in prize money.

But last year was lean for Ballesteros with his solitary victory coming in the Cannes Open. "It was the year nothing went right for me," he said. "It could have been incredible with a little more luck."

But 1988 is sure to go down as one of his better years with two tournament wins already and now the British Open title.

Ballesteros said his experiences at the US Masters in 1986 and



Ballesteros crouches to watch his putt on the ninth hole. (Reuters wirephoto)

1987 had affected his confidence. In 1986 he was in control until he hit into water with a second shot at the 15th in the final round and

last year he lost on the first hole of a play-off when he missed a short putt. "This was the best I've played

for four rounds since I won at St Andrews in 1984, and the best I putted, too," he said.

Ballesteros, whose putting over the last few years has not been of the high standard he demands of himself, made no big putts in his third round of 70 on Sunday and there was no hint of the fireworks to come when he missed for birdies from six feet and 15 feet at the first two holes yesterday.

But his confidence remained high and soon the putts began to drop.

Price bogeyed the second and his two-shot overnight lead was reduced to one, then both parred the 490-yard sixth and eagled the 549-yard seventh after superb longiron approach shots. Ballesteros holed from six feet. Price from three feet.

Sank

That six-footer galvanised the Spaniard. At the eighth he holed from 18 feet for a birdie, then after paring the ninth he sank birdie putts of 20 feet at the 10th and 11th.

He had taken six shots off par over six holes to lead for the first time since his four-under-par 67 of the opening round.

Ballesteros took the wrong club at the 198-yard 12th — a fouriron instead of a three — and missed from five feet at the 14th, but both for bogeys.

But he made no more errors, and his brilliant approach at 16 sewed up the contest. "Once I began to hole some putts, I had a lot more confidence," he said.

Lawyers drop charges against soccer fans

LONDON, July 19, (AP): English soccer's bid to rid itself of crowd violence was dealt a new blow yesterday when prosecuting lawyers announced they had dropped charges against 89 fans through lack of evidence.

Following the collapse of three trials involving followers of several London clubs, the lawyers decided not

